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AND
China Overland Trade Report.

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DEATHS.

On 25th September, at Daitotei, Formosa, JOHN KENNEDY BARLOW, aged 21 years, eldest son of J. K. BARLOW, Gravesend, Kent. Drowned while bathing. (Home newspapers kindly copy).

On 28th September, at "Goolistao," Conduit Road, Hongkong, ELLIE B. (MAY), the dearly beloved wife of THOMAS I. ROSE, aged 47 years.

On the 30th September, L. A. M. JOHNSTON, Postmaster General, Hongkong.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of the 4th September and the parcel mails closed in London for despatch by the all sea route on the 26th August, and for despatch overland on the 2nd September, arrived per s.s. *Delta* on the 30th September.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

M. Klobukowski the new Governor-General of Indo-China came out to Saigon on the M. M. steamer *Caledonien*.

Shanghai papers report the death of Mr. Arthur Wood, second British Admiralty pilot, after a lingering illness.

Major Probyn, of the Army Medical Corps, has been appointed Sanitary Specialist in South China. This is a new appointment.

Passengers arriving in Shanghai on the 23rd inst. by the Siberian and South Manchuria Railways, from London, accomplished the full journey in fifteen days four and a half hours.

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the North China Insurance Co., Ltd. was held at Shanghai last week and a final dividend on account of 1907 was declared of 7½ per cent on the paid up capital, and a bonus of 15 per cent to the company's contributors.

According to a Seoul despatch, the authorities have issued an order that the Imperial edict for the removal of the top-knot is to be enforced, as it is considered disloyal for the old fashioned method of wearing the hair to be followed after being discarded by the Imperial families and high officials.

Mr. Kliene, Commissioner, I. M. Customs, Hoihow (Hainan) has been transferred; Mr. A. W. Cross, recently stationed at Soochow, has been appointed to relieve Mr. Kliene. Mr. Frank Smith is being transferred temporarily to Soochow, from Wenchow; and Mr. Napier, who has just returned from leave has been appointed to Wenchow.

A fund is being raised at Hankow to provide a General Hospital. The probable cost of the hospital is roughly estimated at \$60,000. It is recognised that this sum cannot entirely be raised by private subscription, but, in the event of sufficient response being made to the appeal, it is believed that the balance required could easily be obtained by means of debentures.

Sir A. Hosie, the British Commercial Attache at Peking, calls attention to the opportunities for enterprise afforded by the fair which is held in the spring of each year at Chengtu, the capital of the Province of Szechuan. In recent years, this fair has become a commercial and industrial exhibition, attracting visitors and manufacturers from all parts of the province.

Norman Taylor, the second officer of the *Yuenang*, arrested and prosecuted at Manila for having on his person and in his possession 49 cans of opium and a large number of lottery tickets, was on the 25th inst. sentenced to one year's imprisonment and a fine of P1,000 and the costs of the case on the opium charge, and to a fine of P500 and costs in the lottery ticket case.

The following is from a Hankow paper:—While an Englishman was passing the Railway Co's property in a sampan some coolies who were loading rails on to a truck shouted "Foreign Devil" and pelted the sampan with stones. The foreigner got out and asked why he was attacked, thinking there was some mistake but the coolies threatened him with their bamboos and drove him into the water. He regained his sampan after a ducking and being very much bruised.

Messrs. Carlowitz and Co. has had a suit pending in the United States Court for China at Shanghai, against M. J. Black, from whom the plaintiffs claimed Tls. 20,000 as damages for defendant's refusal to accept delivery of watches ordered for the Shanghai Watch Club. The defendant had left Shanghai and is believed to be "somewhere in America." The case was therefore dismissed without prejudice to plaintiffs taking further action should defendant return to Shanghai.

A large Chinese hotel off the Honan Road, Shanghai, was destroyed by fire last week. The insurance amounted to 47,000 t.els.

The Chinese in Shantung threaten to boycott the Germans if a certain mining agreement entered into between a German syndicate and the Viceroy, with the approval of the Wai-Wu Pu, is not cancelled. The plans of the people are set forth as follows:—1.—Not to buy or sell German goods; 2.—Not to do any work for the Germans; 3.—Not to send their children and relatives to any schools or colleges where German teachers exist; 4.—Not to travel by the Kiaochow-Tsinan railway.

At a meeting of foreign merchants held at Chemulpo on the 15th inst., it was decided to take action as far as possible to prevent Japanese from registering trade-marks of foreign goods in Korea. As a result of the meeting a letter was sent to the Residency-General the next day stating that it had been brought to the notice of the signatories that application had been lodged by Japanese subjects for the registration of trade marks belonging to and used for many years by British, German, and other Foreign Firms doing business in Korea, and they begged leave to enquire whether it is the intention of the Bureau to grant such registration.

The Korean journalist, Ying Ki Tak, who has been charged before the Japanese Court at Seoul with embezzling money subscribed towards the fund for the redemption of the National Debt, has been found not guilty, and acquitted. This case has been in progress for several weeks. Ying was connected with a vernacular paper in Seoul owned by Mr. E. T. Bethell. The paper was hostile to Japan and opened a subscription list towards a fund for the redemption of the loans Korea had obtained from Japan. From 60,000 to 70,000 Yen was subscribed, and Ying was charged by the Japanese authorities with having embezzled some of the money. The result shows the charge to have broken down.

HONGKONG LAW COURTS.

The report of the Director of Public Works refers to the work on the Law Courts as follows:—

The necessary alterations resulting from the provision of a third Court were made and the whole of the walls of the building were completed up to the level of the second floor. The colonnade, which practically surround the building, was completed up to the level of the main cornice and a considerable portion of the cornice itself was set. The stones composing the architrave of the colonnade vary from 14 to 15 feet in length, whilst each stone weighs from about 3 to 3½ tons. Dressed granite aggregating 28,218 cubic feet, was set in the work and good progress was made with the carving of the massive stone figures, &c., which will adorn the pediment on the west front of the building. Granite balusters to the number of 50 were prepared, bringing the total of those ready for fixing up to 850. The average number of masons employed daily was 147. Most of the steelwork for the second floor was set and the concrete forming the ceilings of the first floor corridors was laid. Tenders for the joinery and fittings required to complete the building were called for before the close of the year.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—I.

(Daily Press, September 28th.)

A VISIT to British Columbia after an absence of some eighteen years affords much room for reflection. As was foreseen by those acquainted with the country, the province has turned out one of the richest, if not actually the richest in the Dominion, and this, whether we take into account its agricultural of its mineral wealth; the population, too, has steadily increased, and the towns, especially Victoria, the Provincial Capital, and Vancouver, the commercial metropolis, from being respectable quiet towns, of some eighteen and twenty-five thousand inhabitants, have already grown into great centres of population. Vancouver especially being now a great city, with a population approaching a hundred thousand. Behind, in the Fraser River valley, where the ground is suitable for settlement, agriculture has made considerable strides, and the country with its well-laid-out roads, its fruit orchards, its dairy farms, and its hop gardens, is beginning to assume a settled aspect, reminding one distantly of a farming country at home. In the east, in the Kootenay districts and along the upper Columbia river, mining enterprise has made huge advances, and financially the Province is rich, and unencumbered. Great attention has of late years been paid to education, which is free, and absolute illiteracy can hardly be said to exist, all classes, as a rule supporting the State Schools, with little discrimination as to wealth or social status, which ostensibly are presumed to be able to take care of themselves. Very similar conditions prevail over Oregon and Washington States, which do not fall behind British Columbia in productiveness, so that with the increasing trans-oceanic trade of the Pacific, which may be said to be one of the most conspicuous features of the newly opened century, it is not wonderful that the Pacific Slope of America should provide a site for many great, and growing cities; so that to the former "Western Gate" of San Francisco, we should now have to add, Portland, Tacoma, Seattle, Vancouver, Victoria, already out of their teens:—besides many smaller, but yet important towns already looming in the near future. Indeed one, which is certain in a few years to be amongst the greatest, if not as some of its sanguine promoters hope, the very greatest city on the entire Pacific coast, is as yet but a few months old, the infant city of Prince Rupert. With one of the finest harbours in the world, and, as in the course of the next few years it will be, connected by the shortest and most easily traversed line of railway possible with the great cities of Eastern Canada and the great wheat lands of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, as well as the eastern shipping ports, Prince Rupert starts with an assured future, and from the recent action of the Canadian Government there is no room for doubt that everything will be done that is possible to help it to get over those difficulties that are incidental to the youth, as well of cities as of individuals. This, however, is for the immediate future; more immediately interesting and instructive as a thing already well in progress is the advance made by the twin cities on Puget Sound, Vancouver and Seattle. In many respects one is a counterpart of the other. Vancouver the direct outcome of the great Canadian Pacific Railway, and Seattle the darling of the Great United States lines of the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern Railways.

The enormous influence exercised by these two railways respectively in Vancouver and

Seattle is one of the most curious phenomena of the place which the most careless of travellers can scarcely avoid noticing; almost everything in Vancouver, in fact, depends directly or ultimately on the great railway company, which of course has been the making of the place; and for good or evil dominates the whole, from the City Council down to the conductor of the tramcar. The power of the railway is, in fact, a more tangible affair than that of the Government, who rather than risk a quarrel will submit to almost any demand of the Company. So far Vancouver could not have got on without the C. P. R., but it is uncertain whether a little more self-reliance would not now prove advantageous for the future growth of the place, which seems to be kept somewhat unduly in leading strings. Some twenty years ago the city was only a pleasant little town of some eighteen thousand inhabitants. Curiously enough, the Railway had always given out that it was going to have its terminus at Port Moody, some twelve miles higher up the Inlet, and it seems the Government had actually sold much of the ground there on some such understanding; but Port Moody wanted some of the first essentials of a port; it was small and restricted, and the water was shallow, and would have required constant dredging. Under the circumstances the Railway Company wisely decided to go further, but the Government had to reimburse some of the purchasers of land for the fall in value of their holdings. As a port Vancouver leaves little to be desired, but it may be a question from a sanitary point of view whether it would not have been wiser to have gone further out to sea. At all events there is already some indication that with the further growth of the city there will be considerable difficulty in the disposal of its sewage, the tidal currents in the completely land-locked Burrard's Inlet being extremely weak. Otherwise Vancouver may be said to be a model site for a great city. The ground is gently undulating, no part rising more than about fifty or sixty feet, and there being no steep gradients to overcome. It is curiously intersected by another shallow bay known as False Creek, but in the course of events this is already becoming filled up, and the upper part has recently been acquired as a terminus for the Great Northern Railway, which will bring the city into direct railway communication with Seattle and the American coast ports to the South. The City is fairly well policed, and the City Council seems to administer its part with judgment and fair economy. Many of the streets are not yet graded, but work is progressing fairly satisfactorily. The streets are wide, are well laid out, and those that are completed are well macadamised and in a few cases concreted or paved with blocks. The tramroads are laid on wood sleepers, but are well laid, of standard gauge, and the cars are well constructed, well kept, and are open and comfortable. Practically it may be said they monopolise the whole of the street traffic, for cabs of any sort can hardly be said to exist, so that there is no alternative beyond walking, and carrying one's own baggage, or going by tram. With regard to buildings, the city is still in its initiatory stage, and nearly all the buildings are wood or mere flimsies. This is, of course, a continual source of danger, though the fire brigade is efficient, and, considering the extremely dangerous conditions, fires are rare and seldom do much damage. Still, as yet there has been no whole-hearted attempt made to introduce better conditions. The first beginnings of better things are only just commencing to be noticeable. The

Government is putting up a fine granite structure as a post office; new Law Courts are also being built in the same material, and some of the banks have recently erected substantial stone and brick buildings, some of which have pretensions to architectural design. Fire-proof structures are also being introduced to some extent, but on the whole the city is but in its merely preparatory stage, and will require entire rebuilding within the next twenty-five years. What the share-broker is in Shanghai the real-estate agent is in Vancouver. Their name is legion; even on the extreme verge of the clearings, where the burning stumps have barely had time to cool, the Real Estate man fixes up a few planks, and announces properties for sale; everyone who has not learnt a trade, or has proved a failure, thinks himself good enough as an estate agent, and custom encourages gambling in such securities. It is a necessary calling, doubtless, and there are many Real Estate agents who do a good business, and bear a high character; for the majority it is only another name for chuckstones, and it is a pity that the lives of so many should be so utterly wasted, for large numbers of the inhabitants are really withdrawn from wholesome pursuits to become little better than wasters, without a prospect of ever becoming useful citizens. But we have said enough to tax the patience of our readers for a single day.

THE CRISIS IN LANCASHIRE.

(Daily Press, September 29th.)

The extract quoted by our London correspondent from a Birmingham paper with regard to recent Japanese purchases of cotton mill machinery, and to the progress which the Japanese are making in textile manufactures, sounds strangely at a time when we are hearing of the grave trade crisis in Lancashire which has been brought about by "the generally unsatisfactory state of the trade for months past." The reason given by the Lancashire mill owners for reducing the wages of the operatives was that little business is doing, and even when orders are booked "they do not yield anything approaching a reasonable profit." The attempt to improve matters by organising short time working and the consequent curtailment of yarn production had proved insufficient and some reduction in wages was considered by the millowners as inevitable if mills were not to shut down for a time or continue working at a loss. While all this was being said and written about the state of the cotton trade in England, the British machinery makers were, apparently, busy filling large orders for mills in Japan. Yet we do not gather from Japan that the cotton spinning industry there is in a flourishing condition. On the contrary, the mills controlled by the Cotton Spinners' Union are working short time in order to avoid overproduction, and although the output is being reduced by something like 150,000 bales a year, they are still experiencing so much difficulty in getting the restricted output taken off the market that a suggestion is already made that the agreement restricting the output, which has been in force since April shall, when it expires in November, be renewed for another six months. The complaints of the millowners in Japan have elicited recently some interesting comments by independent critics. A Bank President, for example, says that the mills in Japan are not run with regard to economy, and if the present depression serves to direct their attention to this fact it will prove a blessing in disguise. What the speaker had in mind we may perhaps

gather from an article translated from the Japanese newspaper "Nippon" in which it is incidentally mentioned that a peculiar phase of industrial life in Japan is that the capitalist is prepared to suffer loss in time of trade depression by retaining a number of operatives who are not absolutely necessary. The majority of the mill hands are female workers engaged under contract for a fixed term, and this explains how it is that in Japan operatives are not affected to the same extent as are the operatives elsewhere by a depression in trade. The burden falls on the shoulders of the owners. Since April the number of operatives employed in the cotton mills of Japan has decreased by over 12,000, but the decrease is not due to dismissals on an extended scale. It is due simply to the fact that the vacancies which occur are not filled while business is slack. Japan will probably benefit to some extent by the stoppage of the Lancashire mills, and the British operatives may learn too late that their uncompromising attitude, if long maintained, can only lead to permanent loss of trade and irreparable injury to the interests they profess to promote.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—II.

(Daily Press, 30th September.)

RETURNING to the subject of the present of Vancouver, all the attendant circumstances are clearly in favour of progress, not only material but social, yet what strikes the careful visitor, who is prepared to look below the surface, and investigate the subsoil, is that the population has in all things,—speech, general civilisation, culture, morality, dress and manners—distinctly retrograded from the old standard. The Pacific Slope, as its inhabitants love to call it, has not been fortunate in its modern peopling. The first settlers from Europe were Spanish, who brought with them their Roman missionaries, who with the best intentions taught the natives in a perfunctory manner some of the simple arts; the result being that a considerable population grew up of half-caste Indians of low social type. Churches multiplied, but the culture introduced was not of a high class, and little good resulted. Then came a wild rush on the first discovery of placer gold, which introduced into California the offscourings of every country in the world. Till the Union Pacific Railway was completed, overland communication with the rest of America east of the Rocky Mountains was difficult and dangerous, and only those who were content to carry their lives in their hands dared attempt it. The alternatives were the sea route through the straits of Magellan, or the transit by the rudely-constructed, and fever-stricken, Panama Railway. Few except the adventurer who was prepared to accept the roughest conditions availed themselves of either. The only remaining method of approach was from China. These were in the days of the old sailing schooners, when inter-communication was at best slow and uncertain, and long before the feasibility of steam navigation in the Great Ocean had entered the minds even of the most sanguine. Still, in spite of its difficulties, the voyage from Hongkong to San Francisco was really in the Fifties the most convenient means of access to California, and almost the only gate by which weighty materials could be transported. So it happened that the real builders of San Francisco were the Hongkong Chinese, and many traces of their presence and influence were to be noted in the city before its partial ruin by the earthquake. It was not till the opening of the Northern Pacific Railway and its con-

nections that the State of Washington commenced to take any important part in the traffic of the Pacific Slope, but of recent years, partly on account of the facilities offered to trade with the great cities of the East, and partly on account of the natural wealth of the new State, Washington and ports on Puget Sound have commenced to take an increasing part in the commerce of the West Coast. Naturally the population has been largely recruited from the older settled states of California and Oregon, and has absorbed many of its peculiarities.

In the early days Victoria, the capital of Vancouver Island, and now of the province of British Columbia, notwithstanding its remoteness, was mainly settled from England direct, with but a minute increment from California and the other western States. Its English proclivities were the boast of its inhabitants who claimed they were more English than the Canadian cities of the East. With the opening of the Canadian Pacific Railway, little change took place, most of the new settlers being still English filtered through Ontario. On the opening of the line, after some hesitation the site of the present city of Vancouver was selected as the western terminus of the Railway; the fertile lands about the lower valley of the Fraser River also commenced to be occupied, and for a considerable time the new settlers were either eastern Canadians or direct comers from the Home land. The natural advantages of the country at once gave an impetus to emigration, and by 1890 the population of Vancouver already considerably exceeded twenty thousand. "Have you a Webster's Dictionary?" asked an English visitor at this time of one of the principal booksellers. The answer was characteristic:—"No Sir, we do not keep it." But meanwhile the centres of trade had shown, consequent on the opening of the Northern Pacific group of railways, a tendency to move northwards, and Portland, Tacoma, and Seattle began to grow, and the rich country adjacent to be settled with people moving from the south. The newly discovered mineral wealth of British Columbia immediately north of the international boundary commenced to attract settlers from the other side, and the consequence was a huge immigration across the boundary. We have above remarked on the general tone of the population of the West Coast, and the influx into the older settled population of the province, and more especially Vancouver where it is most apparent, could not fail in having a considerable effect. But there were other causes at work. Columbia, following the lead of Eastern Canada and of the United States, has been making strenuous efforts to introduce free education, but unfortunately has had but indifferent material to draw on, and has made the mistake of starting with but a low standard. The mere commercial use of dollars and cents has been the ruling influence at work; and the highest aim of the directors has been limited to the merely utilitarian use of the three Rs. In granting teachers certificates no requirements have been made as to any literary knowledge of English, nor any note taken of correct pronunciation; the mere attainment of a rudimentary amount of reading, or commercial school writing, and of the fundamental rules of business arithmetic being the highest standard required. The consequence is that the offscouring of the schools came to be appointed teachers, and the cause of education, so far from being raised, came to sink to the level of the most illiterate. Webster, so far from being in

disfavour, came to be looked upon as the standard of English, and the local newspapers soon became lowered both in tone and orthography to the level of the public they were intended to serve.

Another more subtle influence has been at work, and that is the low position occupied in the West by the Church. The Church is, in fact, but little in evidence in Vancouver, considering its size, but Conventicles of all sorts abound; they are probably neither better nor worse than in other towns on the West Coast, but as the preachers are of a similar class to their congregations, and exercise no refining influence the result is distinctly lowering to the whole tone of the place. Worse than this, the preacher's wife is generally of even lower type than the majority of the congregation, so that the refining influence of the "Parson's Wife," which counts for so much in a country parish in England is entirely absent. Towards the same end other things—some seemingly indifferent—tend. Vancouver is the paradise of the ready-made clothes man. The head of one of these establishments, in other respects a worthy and well-spoken tradesman, expressed his surprise that any one should go to the trouble of engaging a tailor, when he could get his clothes all ready made, and only requiring a little adjustment. The result is whimsical, and added to the monotony produced by the school system, where the only individuality apparent is that of a little more or less vulgarity, produces a strange stereotyped result. One Vancouverite is in fact but the duplicate of another; and there is no room left for emulation in education, in manners, in speech, nor in any other of the thousand and one trifles that go to make a worthy man and a gentleman. All these drawbacks are common enough elsewhere in a commercial town where there is no constituted authority of Government, or Church, or University, to lead men to a higher idea of life than mere beer and skittles. It is the misfortune of Vancouver that her external circumstances have led in quite the contrary direction. Even the Provincial Government is said to be obnoxious to not dissimilar influences, and stories of what elsewhere would be described as not altogether remote from corruption are ordinarily current. It is not, in fact, too much to say that British Columbia needs for a time a strong hand at the wheel to steer her into clearer waters.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE TWO POWER STANDARD.

(Daily Press, October 1st.)

British Ministers during the last few months have on many occasions sought to allay the fears which find frequent expression in the newspapers and magazines that the naval supremacy of Great Britain is seriously threatened by the German Naval programme. Whatever amount of success they have achieved in that direction will probably be heavily discounted by the news telegraphed yesterday by our London correspondent that the German Navy League is demanding heavy and immediate additions to the strength of the German Navy. Well may it be asked: What is the meaning of it all? H. M. the Kaiser has of late been constantly insisting on the pacific nature of his aims while announcing Germany's intention to maintain and develop her Navy. This Spring a German Navy Act was passed laying down a ten years' shipbuilding programme covering the construction of 16 battleships, 10 battleship cruisers, 20 small

cruisers and 120 destroyers. Submarines are being built at the rate of ten a year. Of the 18 battleships, 12—three each year—are to be laid down in the first four years. We gather from the shipbuilding statistics as they are presented in the Service journals that at the end of the next four years Great Britain will in ships of the "Dreadnought" class alone be nominally 5 or 6 below a two-Power standard based upon the formula of two to one against Germany. In British Naval circles the present position is not, however, deemed an unfavourable one in view of the fact that much quicker progress can be made with shipbuilding in the British yards, while the delay which has occurred has enabled the British Admiralty to gain full knowledge of foreign designs. But there is no intention either on the part of the Government or the nation at large to abandon the two-Power standard: hence there are rumours of new programmes and huge naval loans.

Lord CROMER in the House of Lords quite recently declared that in the present condition of Europe the main duty which devolves on the British Government is "to make provision betimes for the European conflict which may not improbably be forced on us before many years have elapsed"—a danger of which he in common, he believed, with most people who could speak with real authority on foreign affairs was very firmly convinced. His Lordship did not mention Germany, but there was no mistaking that it was to Germany he was alluding. "It is neither necessary nor desirable," he added "that I should state my reason for holding this opinion. I will only say, in order to justify it, it is quite unnecessary to impugn the good faith of those high authorities abroad who constantly reiterate their peaceful intentions. Neither is it necessary to hold that any deliberate intentions hostile to this country exist. We are, however, living in times when the influence of individuals, however highly placed, is limited. When national interests are involved and race passions are excited there is always a risk, and more than a risk, that a collision between rival nations will take place, however pacific may be the intentions of their rulers."

There is no doubt that Lord CROMER in these outspoken observations voiced a sentiment which is widely entertained in England, though his lordship could not but admit that "the mass of the people are not so alive to the possibility of any such conflict taking place." He put this down, however, to their ignorance of foreign affairs. It may be mentioned as a noteworthy feature of the agitation in England that even Socialist leaders are joining in the demand for the maintenance of a two-Power naval standard. Great Britain's position in the matter can be understood. The command of the sea is essential to her existence, and, therefore, for the nation to allow itself to fall into a position where its power at sea will be weaker than that of some other Power or some likely combination of Powers would be suicidal. Germany's excuse for the big navy she is developing, and the still bigger one advocated by the German Naval League, is not so apparent, when we bear in mind the desire for peace re-iterated again and again by the KAISER. By telegram a few weeks ago we learnt also that Prince von BUELOW had denounced as insane the writers of such articles as that which appeared in the July number of the *Quarterly Review* in which the writer discussed the situation much upon the lines suggested by Lord CROMER in the speech to which we have alluded. Nobody in

Germany, Prince von BUELOW declared, dreamed of a quarrel with England, which would irreparably injure both. The British nation certainly does not wish for a conflict, but it is bound to ask itself the meaning and object of Germany's naval expansion. In a recent number of the *Spectator* there was a letter purporting to give the substance of conversations with the commander of one of the German Mail steamers running to the Far East. He was represented as saying that the German nation was firmly resolved to wrest, or at least make a determined effort to wrest, the command of the sea from Great Britain for the obvious reason that "Germany must expand, must have an outlet, both commercially and in the way of remunerative and desirable colonies. Britain alone of all the nations stood in her way in these directions, and until Britain was taken out of the way by being deprived of the command of the sea, Germany would never fulfil her true destiny as the first world-Power." If this belief is as common in Germany as it is represented to be by the German commander alluded to, it goes a long way towards justifying "the morbid excitability" displayed in England. It is worth pointing out, however, that the alarm of the politicians in England does not seem to be shared by the officers of the Navy, and this prepares us to some extent, to accept the statement of Mr. SYDNEY WHITMAN after his interview with Prince von BUELOW that "there is good reason to believe that Germany will shortly prove that she harbours no warlike intentions, especially against Great Britain, but that she is bent on conciliation all round." What the precise meaning of this cryptic observation is, must be left to Time to reveal. Meanwhile, though we do not share the uneasiness and alarm displayed by Lord CROMER, we recognise, as everybody must, that the situation would be vastly improved by some tangible evidence that the historic words of the KAISER—"Our future is upon the water"—have not the sinister import so widely credited to them apparently alike in Germany and in England.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

I have heard a good deal of discussion since the harbour swim about the abilities of the leading men. Not a few ascribe the win of Thomas to his greater knowledge of the harbour and suggest that Cooke is the stronger swimmer. That may be so, but one would have thought the experience of last year would have led Cooke to watch his dangerous rival more closely. The fact that Thomas has won twice in succession, and that the same men finished in the same order is a fair indication that the honours are not misplaced.

A correspondent writes to tell me of the mild shock he received the other day when engaging a ricsha coolie. He was trying to elicit from his "boy," who acted as interpreter, if the big raw-boned fellow had pulled a ricsha before, but the purport of his question was evidently mistaken by the boy who explained "He belong Scotchman." This explanation was no explanation. The coolie had all the appearances of a real Celestial and there was nothing about him to suggest the son of Caledonia.

My correspondent must be a griffin of he would know that a Scotchman among the Chinese is a Hakka. But the reason for so describing the Hakkas I have not discovered. It may be that the name was given them as an acknowledgement that they were bigger than the other Chinese or it may have been an appreciation of that characteristic which makes them more careful in the distribution of their money. These two qualities which they have in common with the canny sons of Scotia may be an explanation,

but if my correspondent had written earlier I might have brought the subject under the notice of the local St. Andrew's Society who sat in conclave on Friday last.

The retort of the famous Irish parliamentarian might very well be made to that part of the Governor's budget speech where he said "I confess I do not look for any sympathy with posterity from the taxpayers of the present day." Why should we consider posterity? What has posterity done for us?

Whether succeeding generations will rise and bless the name of Sir Frederick is a question which does not concern the taxpayer of the present day, but the present generation will doubtless regard His Excellency as a very present help in time of trouble. He has tided us over a time of difficulty and the evil day of increased taxation which we all dreaded has been postponed. For such small merces we are truly thankful. With the low dollar and the enhanced price of commodities we should have felt that bankruptcy was not far off if additional burdens had been imposed upon us, but happily we are still left with the hope of the good time coming. And as Robert Burns sings:

Who will say that Fortune grieves him,
While the star of hope she leaves him.

I thought we should not have to wait long for the appearance of the Chinaman who realised the commercial possibilities of the Sanitary Board's recommendation to the inhabitants to keep cats. According to the *Daily Press* a genius was discovered the other day hawking cats, and as the procuring of a licence is a necessary prelude to hawking—a formality with which this worthy had omitted to comply—he was haled before an unsympathetic magistrate. In the presence of the "beak" he showed himself ready witted and explained that he was not selling cats, but merely distributing them with a view to helping to carry out the intentions of the Sanitary Board. The excuse however did not go down with his worship who showed his disapproval by inflicting a fine of four dollars.

Attention, dear readers, for the gentleman just returned from Rangoon who proposes to tell us something we don't know about cats. "Indians"—that is the *nom d'plume* of my correspondent—declares that cats are great pets in that city. They are very amiable and never keep late hours or exercise their vocal cords on the tiles. No, their behaviour is exemplary. They are never found coming home with the milk in the morning bleary eyed and shamefaced. But here is the burden of his homily: they are good rat catchers. If local live stock dealers, he adds, import the breed they will be able to dispose of cats at \$5 per head. "Indians'" suggestion will doubtless be welcomed by the Government and the Sanitary Board, and I can imagine that the next list of honours from home will include a C.M.G. or D.S.O. for the gentleman from Rangoon.

"Stand'ard and fast," who writes sarcastic, wants us to boost the idea of "Down South" for more public entertainment. "Stand'ard"—I hope he will forgive my familiarity in referring to him only by the first part of his name—is an American, and Americans are great people, you know, for doing things. They got Manila about ten years ago and now they are building a decent hotel. But makes. "Stand'ard" tells me that when Seattle was a baby township he and a few others made things hum by themselves. He and a few of his friends are in Hongkong now. How quiet Seattle must be. Why doesn't he hum in Hongkong?

On top of this letter comes another from a fellow whose signature I cannot decipher. He complains of Indian policemen singing in the streets at night while on duty. Good gracious! I suspected them of many things, but my fancy never ran riot to the extent of imagining these lumbering—not slumbering—fellows capable of singing. My correspondent says these musical efforts disturb the children and make them cry. That cannot be tolerated. Midnight warbling, whether by cats or Sikh policemen, must be stopped, and doubtless the C. S. P. will pass instructions to that effect.

Mr. Hooper has scored again. As the result of representations made by himself and one or two others, His Excellency has stopped the wholesale issue of summonses by the Building Authority for non-compliance with notices to execute certain repairs. And none too soon. Yesterday I was informed that a certain owner had received a notice to construct a flue in the kitchen of an indicated house. This was followed by another notice ordering him to pull down the kitchen. He had scarcely recovered from his bewilderment when he received a letter informing him that the summonses recently issued had been withdrawn for the time being. This made him feel a little better, but judge of his surprise to receive on Saturday a summons calling upon him to show cause at the Magistracy why he should not be fined for failing to comply with the notice to pull down the kitchen. Like the hero of the song "e dunno where 'e are" and he wonders when the authorities will have a "lucid interval."

RODERICK RANDOM.

HONGKONG.

We understand that there will be no Coroner's inquest into the cause of death of the late Mr. Reginald Harding, the magistrate being satisfied with the report furnished him by the police.

A Bonham Strand gold dealer reported to the police on Wednesday that while weighing gold in his shop he missed a piece valued at \$700 from his counter. Detectives have the matter in hand.

His Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to Ordinance No. 13 of 1908, entitled—An Ordinance to prohibit the Exportation of Prepared Opium to China and to French Indo-China.

A marriage has been arranged, and will take place early in November, between Lieutenant the Hon. Arthur Stopford, Royal Navy, second son of Viscount Stopford, of Gorey, Ireland, and Mary Augusta Grace, elder daughter of Mr. G. C. C. Master, recently of Hongkong.

On Sept. 26th a Chinese woman 82 years of age, an inmate of the Asile de la Sainte Enfance at Wanchai, committed suicide by hanging. Fastening the end of a rope to the banister of the stairway while standing on a stool, she looped the other end round her neck, then pushed the stool away. When found later, she was dead.

Two summonses under the Stamp Ordinance came before the Magistrates at the Police Court on Sept. 29. In one, the compadore of the s.s. "Tai On" was fined \$75 by Mr. Kemp for failing to affix a stamp to a shipping receipt. In the other Mr. Wood imposed a fine of \$25 on Messrs. Sincere and Co. for neglecting to stamp a receipt.

Mr. J. R. Wood passed an exemplary sentence on a lukong on Sept. 30. The defendant and another native were prosecuted by Inspector Fenton for stealing vegetables from a hawker in Swatow Lane. The offence was proved, and the lukong sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour. His accomplice was sent to jail for six weeks.

A judgment of interest to landlords and tenants was given in the Supreme Court on the 29th ult. The acting Puisne Judge found that the landlord where he let part of the building, a flat, should have inspected the roof of which he retained possession and was accordingly liable for damage done in consequence of water accumulating on the roof and descending into the rooms beneath.

The Union Church Literary and Debating Society begins its winter session on October 8th with a lecture by Dr. J. C. Thomson, on "The Romance of Lowland Scotland." The Syllabus for October to March 1908-9 includes lectures by Dr. Amos P. Wilder, Rev. T. W. Pearce, the Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart, Dr. W. W. Pearce, Dr. C. K. Edmunds, Rev. C. H. Hickling, Messrs F. W. Terry, A. Bellamy Brown, W. H. Williams, J. J. Stubbings, W. Drew Braidwood, A. C. Franklin, and A. Rodger. The syllabus includes three debates, in two of which Messrs. H. L. Garrett and A. H. Crook oppose each other.

A mining lease for a further area of one square mile in Sai Kung district on the South shore of Tolo Harbour, was, according to the Report of the Director of Public Works, issued to Sir Paul Chater last year. It authorizes the working of deposits of iron ore. A mining licence was issued to Mr. Grant Smith for an area of 28.32 acres on the Southern portion of Mount Davis.

We do not think we are divulging a secret, says the Queen's College magazine, when we say that the plans for a magnificent hostel to accommodate eighty students and containing a gymnasium 60+30 and all its equipment and appurtenances, with reading rooms, games rooms and library, are complete, and need only very little to see them realized in material brick and mortar. Four munificent donors—two English noblemen, one gentleman in the States, and another in New Zealand, have given some \$40,000. A further sum of \$10,000 is needed to carry these plans into full execution.

The river steamer "Yingking," which foundered in the typhoon of the 27-28th July with a loss of between 300 and 400 lives, has been raised and brought to Hongkong. She is now lying behind Stonecutters, and it is expected that she will go into dock in a few days. Her top deck has been washed away, but the hull is intact. As soon as she is seaworthy again the owners intend to put her on the Canton run as before. It is stated that when the vessel foundered she was bringing about 60,000 dollars' worth of subsidiary coins to Hongkong. We learn that about half this amount has been recovered.

DEATH OF MR. L. A. M. JOHNSTON.

It came as a great shock to the community on September 30th to learn that Mr. L. A. M. Johnston, the Postmaster-General, had died at his residence at the Peak of blood-poisoning. Only a few days ago he trod on a nail in his room, but, regarding the occurrence as trifling, he paid no attention to it. Unfortunately blood poisoning supervened, and despite unremitting medical attention he succumbed as stated. Deceased was a son of the late Mr. William Johnston, of Ballykillbeg, County Down, a well known Irish Parliamentarian and leader of the Orange party; being member of Parliament for one of the divisions of Belfast, and Mr. Johnston was himself a Justice of the Peace for his native country.

Mr. Johnston was forty-three years of age. He was educated at Dublin University and took the B.A. degree. Joining the Civil Service in 1888, he came out to the Straits Settlements as a cadet, and was attached to the Colonial Secretary's Office. In the following year he was transferred to the Resident Councillor's Office at Penang, and a year later he was appointed Magistrate and Assistant Collector of Land Revenue at Sungei Ujong. After passing his final examination in Malay in 1890 he was attached to the General Post Office at Singapore. He became assistant Postmaster-General there in 1895, but in the interval he had been Assistant District Officer at Alor Gajah (1902-3) and Assistant Official Assignee and Registrar of Deeds at Singapore, while continuing to act also as District Officer at Alor Gajah. In 1896 he was acting Postmaster-General at Singapore, and in the following year came to Hongkong on a special mission concerning postal matters. On returning to the Straits he went to Penang as Assistant Postmaster-General for a few months, and then went to Malacca as Acting Collector of Land Revenue, Officer in charge of the Treasury, and Municipal Commissioner for Malacca. Mr. Johnston held these appointments and in addition that of Collector of Land Revenue and Registrar of Deeds at Singapore until September 1900 when he again became acting Postmaster-General. While on leave in 1902 he was appointed to succeed the late Commander Hastings, R.N., as Postmaster-General at Hongkong. Mr. Johnston arrived in the Colony in February 1903 and assumed duty on March 1st. Since then Mr. Johnston had twice acted as Colonial Treasurer and while filling that position was ex-officio a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils.

One of the most popular men in the Colony Mr. Johnston will be greatly missed. In the Civil Service he was held in high regard, and his subordinates in the Post Office found in him a fair and impartial superior. He was well liked by the staff. In social circles his personality was highly appreciated, and a very large number of friends both here and in the Straits will mourn his untimely death.

His demise will be a great blow to the Volunteer movement in Hongkong. He had recently been appointed to the command of the newly formed infantry company, and under his influence the company grew considerably in numbers. He was a very keen volunteer, having been for about 13 years in the Straits Volunteer Artillery, in which he held a commission.

The greatest sympathy is expressed for the bereaved widow (who is a sister of Major Jones of the R.A.M.C., Hongkong), whose grief is the more poignant as she only came out from a holiday at home by the last German Mail to join her husband who returned from absence on leave in the early part of the year.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place at the Happy Valley yesterday under particularly gloomy circumstances which emphasised the sadness and solemnity of the occasion. Though rain fell in torrents throughout the evening, a large number assembled to pay their last tribute of respect to one so generally esteemed, and no more eloquent testimony to the regard entertained for the deceased could have been had than that so many should brave the discomforts of the evening to attend the interment. His Excellency the Governor was among the number, and during the last rites he seemed much affected.

Military honours were accorded the deceased in recognition of his connection with the Volunteers. A hearse brought the coffin to the Monument, where the firing party drawn from the 3rd Middlesex were assembled, as well as the band. A contingent of Volunteers was present with a gun carriage, the officers in uniform being Lieut. Colonel Chapman, Capt. Armstrong, Captain Wood, Lieuts. Northcote, Kennet, and Wolfe, while special tram cars, which stood near by, brought the Governor and a number of government officials. The coffin having been transferred to the gun carriage, the firing party with rifles reversed moved off, followed by the band playing the Dead March. Then came the gun carriage drawn by Volunteers. Walking behind were Major Jones (brother-in-law) and other military and naval officers with Colonel Darling, General Officer Commanding. Immediately afterwards came the Governor at the head of the other mourners, amongst whom were Sir Paul Chater, Hon. Mr. F. H. May, Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson, Hon. Mr. Rees Davies, Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, Hon. Mr. E. A. Irving, Commander Basil Tayer R. N., Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, Hon. Mr. H. A. W. Slade, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart, Mr. C. Clement, Dr. Atkinson, Mr. M. I. Messer, Dr. Wilder, Mr. A. Seth, Mr. H. N. Mody, Mr. E. C. Lewis, Captain Lyons, Mr. A. J. Brackenbury, Capt. Hooper, A.D.C., Mr. Shelton Hooper, Mr. J. R. Wood, Mr. C. D. Melbourne, Mr. Dowley, Mr. Gray Scott, etc.

At the entrance to the cemetery the cortege halted, and the coffin was carried by Volunteers to the graveside, where the Rev. F. T. Johnston officiated. The service was very impressive. The coffin, which was enveloped in a Union Jack and on which rested the helmet and sword of the deceased officer, was afterwards lowered into the grave. Then the hundred rifles rang out three volleys, the drums playing the usual tattoo after each volley. A pathetic sight was witnessed when numbers of Chinese postmen followed the example of the European mourners in throwing a handful of sand on the top of the coffin.

The floral tributes were numerous. The most conspicuous was a harp and a cross, with appropriate ribbons attached bearing the inscription. "With deepest sympathy from the staff, G. P. O. Hongkong." The Governor sent a special wreath, as did also the two aides-de-camp and the private secretary, while Lieut. Col. Chapman and the officers of the Volunteer Corps forwarded similar tokens. Several other wreaths came from military officers and leading members of the community.

THE CHARGE AGAINST A EUROPEAN MERCHANT.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood on Sept. 28 the hearing of the charge against H. S. Holmes, merchant, of obtaining \$3,000 from Cheung Chim Leung by false pretences was resumed. Mr. C. F. Dixon appeared to prosecute and Mr. G. K. Holmes defended.

Cheung Chim Leung, re-examined, said he was to get a commission from defendant on the railway contract. He was to be under no liability whatsoever. He paid the \$3,000 as compradore. It was paid over to defendant to purchase goods. The latter had to find customers, but witness did not understand that he had to get customers as well.

In reply to his Worship witness said he did not know of anyone being in partnership with defendant.

Lam Tai Nam was the next witness. He said the complainant had stayed at a shop with him in Des Vaux Road since the 10th moon last year. He remembered an interview between complainant and defendant in May, when Yeung Chik Sam was also present. Complainant asked Yeung Chik Sam to ask defendant if he wanted to engage a compradore. He said, "Yes," but he wanted \$10,000 security—\$5,000 cash and \$5,000 deeds. He would pay \$150 a month as wages. Defendant told complainant he was going to start import and export business, and perhaps railway work. He said he was going to get the contract.

In reply to his Worship, witness said the defendant told complainant he was in business.

Proceeding, he said the same four people were present at a second interview, when defendant told complainant to go and get the money. He said he had got a contract to engage workmen on the Kowloon railway. Complainant said, "If you have got the job and I am able to get permission and am able to make some money out of it, I don't mind being compradore as well." Defendant told complainant he had better go home, think over the matter, and if he decided to be his compradore, to bring his securities. Complainant said he would go home and consult with his folks. At a third interview complainant said he would accept the compradoresthip. He said Yeung Chik Sam had promised to put up \$5,000 in deeds. With reference to the cash he was only able to raise \$3,000, but would get the remaining \$2,000 in a few days. Defendant told complainant if he got the money he (defendant) would get the agreement ready. When they went to see defendant on the fourth occasion with the money, he took them to Mr. Almada's office where the agreement was drawn up. Complainant was to start his duties as compradore two or three days after the agreement was signed. During the time witness was at the office, sometimes three times a week, he did not see any business done. On one occasion complainant asked witness to ask defendant when he would get business. Witness said, "Hallo, Mr. Holmes, when is your cargo coming, and when will you have the Kowloon railway work." Defendant said, "By-and-bye."

Cross-examined—Witness had a \$500 share, and three other persons had shares. He was not employed at another business. Witness did not know why the balance of the money was not paid according to the agreement. Complainant told him these proceedings were going to be taken for the recovery of the balance of his wages. Complainant got the balance of the money over a month ago, but said he did not want to hand it over to defendant. Witness would not like to withdraw if there was business, but he had no say in the matter. He had never heard the defendant speak Chinese.

This closed the case for the prosecution.

His Worship—What false pretences do you consider you have proved, Mr. Dixon?

Mr. Dixon—That defendant stated that he had obtained a contract from the railway and that complainant would be able to participate in the profits derived from that contract. I have proved that by complainant and another witness.

His Worship—You don't consider you have proved that defendant stated that he already had business with the railway?

Mr. Dixon—No. What I set out to prove was that defendant represented he was about to carry on legitimate, *bona fide* business for which he wanted a compradore, whereas, all the time he had a compradore in the business. He stated definitely to the compradore that he had obtained contracts for the supply of labour to the railway, whereas he has admitted here that he had not obtained contracts. On that statement the complainant put down the money. I submit that that is sufficient false pretence for your Worship to send the case to be tried before a jury.

His Worship intimated that he would proceed with the case.

Defendant was then called, and after being duly cautioned, said he had had dealings in connection with the Canton section of Kowloon-Canton Railway just before and during May. He had two letters from men who were connected with this section, also a statement of particulars. (These documents were produced.) During April and May witness went to Canton on two or three occasions in connection with this business. He also thought he went in June. He expected to get a contract from this section to supply coolies for labour. Defendant never gave complainant the particulars of the contract, as he was not intending him to be under any liability in connection with it. If he took liability he would have had to put up extra security.

At this stage the hearing was adjourned.

The hearing of the charge of obtaining \$3,000 by false pretences against H. S. Holmes, merchant, was continued at the Magistracy on Sept. 30 before Mr. J. R. Wood. Mr. Dixon, of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings appeared to prosecute, and Mr. G. K. Holmes defended.

The cross-examination of defendant was resumed. He stated that at the date of the first agreement, 16th May, he was solvent. His liabilities only included a few local bills and his assets included a motor launch valued at \$2,000. It was true the launch was sold a few days ago under an execution for \$95. His assets comprised some motor machinery worth about \$2,500 which was at present at Canton. He had also at that time a few bills to collect. The compradore's agreement was in his handwriting. The \$5,000 mentioned was security against loss in business. For instance, a customer might fail to take delivery of goods which would have to be sold by auction and a loss would ensue. He used the money in the business. He lodged the sum in the bank and drew cheques as required. Questioned as to his dealings with the bank, he said he had drawn \$4,000 in respect of other business than that for which Ko A Him was responsible. While Ko A Him was his compradore he made contracts for butter, buttons, etc., but none of these had been completed. Defendant's liability with regard to these would be about \$3,000. The goods had been ordered. He tried to cancel all local orders when Ko A Him went away. He could not give the names without his books. He got several orders when Ko A Him was compradore. On May 20th he had received no orders through Ko A Him.

Where is the \$3,000 you received from the compradore?—I utilised it in the business, I had to pay interest on the money and also compradore's salary.

And you used it in your business?—Yes.

Was it for the same reason you utilised the money received from Sit Leung Kit?—I started off by using the money against his business. He went away and left me. We had a row.

Where is this \$3,000? Is it deposited against the title deeds?—I held two promissory notes.

Are they payable on demand?—One is due in in December.

How much?—\$1,000.

Who is the maker?—A Chinaman.

His name?—I don't remember.

Oh, Mr. Holmes, you remember the man to whom you lent \$1,000?—It is in my books.

You remember that perfectly well?—His name is Yeung.

There are hundreds of Yeungs? What was his name?—His name is Yeung.

And the other promissory note? Who made it?—A Chinaman.

What was his name?—I can't remember.

Was it payable on demand?—Yes.

Continuing, defendant said the \$3,000 was given him in a cheque which he later exchanged with Yeung for a promissory note.

You don't know what his other name is?—He always called himself Yeung.

He was in the office all the while?—Yes. He was one of the partners of the compradore.

And you are calling him as a witness?—Yes.

And you don't know his name?—No.

Defendant added that he told complainant he was expecting a contract from the railway but he gave him no details. The matter was not mentioned as an inducement. He thought he did not tell the complainant about it until after the agreement was signed.

Are you in a position to pay off Sit Leung Kit's claim had he obtained judgment against you the other day?—Yes.

Now?—Not just to-day.

What do you mean?—Within a month or two. Do you intend to pay him off in a month and a half?

Defendant—Am I bound to answer that question?

Mr. Dixon—Certainly.

Defendant—If the business I am doing is satisfactorily finished by that time.

Mr. Holmes—The question is not clear.

His Worship—You mean when the money is free?

Defendant—Yes.

Mr. Dixon—How much have you standing at your credit at the bank?

Defendant—I have nothing to my credit at the bank.

Have you no banking account?—No.

When did you cease to have a banking account?—About a month ago.

And you are carrying on your business without a banking account?—Yes.

Are you going to continue to do that?—After this action I shall—

What action?—After this case.

Do you consider that your assets at the present time are sufficient to pay Sit Leung Kit's \$5,000, complainant's \$3,000, and your other debts?—Yes.

Judgment was obtained against you the other day for \$1,000 for soy sauce?—Yes.

That judgment was executed and your motor-launch sold, but the balance of the judgment has not yet been paid?—It has been paid.

Who paid it?—It has been paid.

His Worship—Answer the question.

Did you pay it?—My brother paid it. I obtained the money from him.

Other judgments obtained against you in the early part of the year were liquidated from the same source?—One judgment was.

Mr. Dixon intimated that he would resume his cross-examination of defendant after he had made an inspection of the books and the promissory notes.

Lam Saw, who had been in the employ of defendant, said he had been trying to get a contract from the Canton Railway for the engaging of coolies. The letter produced stated that 2,000 coolies were to be engaged at \$15 per month. So far as he knew the contract was still open.

Cross-examined—You speak English?—A little.

How much?—Not much.

How much?—I know "one, two, three, four and five," (laughter).

Anything else?—I know "good morning," "come" and "go to work."

Is Mr. Holmes your master or your partner?—In this business he is my partner.

Have you discussed this business?—Why should we discuss it when we have not received the contract.

By the Court—He was to have some profit out of the contract for labour.

The hearing was adjourned.

The hearing of the charge against H. S. Holmes, of having obtained \$3,000 by false pretences, was continued before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on October 1st.

Mr. C. F. Dixon (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) prosecuted, and Mr. H. K. Holmes appeared for the defence.

The Accused, recalled, was further examined by Mr. Dixon. He said the pass book produced was the only banking account he had had since March 14th. He paid most of the \$5,000 received from Sit Leung Kit into his banking account. Sit

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

September 26th.

A GRUEL WOMAN.

The other day a policeman picked up a 13-year-old girl who was crying in the street and took her to No. 11 Police station where she told the Police officer the following most pitiful story:—

"I am a servant girl in the service of Cheang Chik Sun residing at No. 8 Tai Shop Po. Cheang's wife has all along ill-treated me. She is an opium smoker and seldom sleeps in the night. My mistress is in the habit of smoking opium all through the night and I had to wait on her every night. I had to carry water and work in the day and contrive to snatch a few hours sleep in the day. Whenever my mistress caught me asleep in the night she would use a hammer to strike my eyes. My left eye is blind through a blow received from her hands. Whenever I made a slight mistake she would tie me up and pour hot water over my back. In the beginning of the year she told me to go and fetch her a water pipe. Unfortunately it was hidden somewhere by the children. Afterwards she found it and said that I had no eyes to look for things. For this offence she punished me by cutting off my left eye brow with a foreign knife. She often burned my face and body with lighted joss sticks and paper dipped in kerosene oil. The scars on my face and body are marks caused by burning. A few days ago one of our neighbours told me that she had formerly beaten three servant girls to death. I got so frightened when I heard it that I ran away from the house."

On the following day Cheang Chik Sun was summoned to the Police Station and in his presence the girl repeated the statements. The Police officer fined Cheang \$30. Cheang paid the fine and demanded the return of the servant girl. The Police officer refused to hand the girl back to Cheang but returned him the \$30 and sent the girl to a charitable institution.

THE TEA INDUSTRY.

The local authorities have received instructions from the Board of Agriculture and Commerce at Peking to exhort the merchants and the people to encourage the tea industry in the Kwangtung Province. The dispatch says that the importation of Indian and Japanese tea is daily increasing in Europe and America while that of Chinese tea has been decreasing considerably. If the merchants and the people insist upon cultivating and manufacturing in the old fashioned way, the China tea trade will die out in the foreign markets before long. The despatch urges the people to adopt modern methods and requests the authorities to give the people every possible assistance and protection so that the tea trade may be re-established on its former prosperous footing.

September 27th.

OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS CENSURED.

Upon receiving information that the officers and soldiers who were dispatched to various villages up-country to capture robbers and pirates have been robbing the villagers, and also that when besieging houses where brigands had taken refuge, both officers and men very frequently fired into the houses indiscriminately, thus often killing many innocent villagers, His Excellency the Viceroy has issued a notification severely censuring the conduct of the officers and soldiers and warning them that they must in future obey the military regulations. Should such disgraceful things happen again he would cause them to be most severely punished as a warning to the military people generally.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

I mentioned in my correspondence of the 10th instant that Deputy Leong Yung Wu had sent a report to the Board of Posts and Communications at Peking accusing Sir Chan Tung Leong Shing of handling the Canton-Hankow Railway Company's money indiscreetly.

It is now reported that Deputy Leong has petitioned the Board denouncing the President, two deputies (whose duty is to purchase land), one Director of Works, one Director of Finance

and one Civil Engineer of the Company. The petitioner states that the trunk line has now reached Ngan-Tsan-Au. The distance from Wong Sha to Ngan-Tsan-Au village is only 101 li of which 87 li was constructed by the American Development Company; therefore the present company has only constructed 64 li. Moreover the bridges and works of the 64 li are only partially completed.

A SIBUEL TO THE "PAUL BEAU" AFFAIR.

Owing to frequent disagreement between the Chinese officials and the foreign Consuls with regard to the arrest of pirates and robbers on board foreign vessels, resulting in serious international complications, H. E. the Viceroy of Canton has caused certain new regulations to be drawn up. These regulations have been cabled to the Wai-wu-pu for approval after consultation with the Foreign Ministers.

NEW ISSUE OF PAPER MONEY.

It is reported that the Bureau of Local Affairs here will place the following amount of provincial subsidiary coin paper notes in the market next month viz.:—

One dollar subsidiary coin notes	1,000,000
Five " " " "	2,000,000
Ten " " " "	2,000,000

Total 5,000,000

These notes were ordered from Japan some time ago and they are expected to arrive here shortly.

NEW COPPER COINS.

Owing to great inconvenience being experienced by the smaller traders and labourers of various provinces through the disappearance of the cash coins, the Board of Revenue has given instructions to the Canton Mint to strike large quantities of half cent and two cash coins as soon as possible and to distribute them amongst the provinces mentioned in the despatch.

A PLEASANT SURPRISE.

In my previous correspondence I mentioned that Kong Hung Yan informed the French Consul that he had to proceed to Shanghai to attend to some important financial and property business. From inquiries made I learn that Mr. Kong Hung Yan has come into a rather big fortune lately. Mr. Kong's father, who died some twenty years ago, was formerly a tea merchant in Shanghai. It appears that the old man had purchased a large rice field somewhere near Shanghai shortly before his death. The family, who were residing in Canton at the time, knew nothing about the transaction, and after old Kong's death the title deeds of the property must have been lost; at least his family never obtained possession of them. The lessee of the field took advantage of Kong's death, kept silent and never paid rent to Kong's family, and had ever since treated the field as his own property. Recently the lessee had a dispute with his neighbour over a boundary question and he brought an action against him in the Shanghai District Court. At the trial of the case the Teotai discovered from the registry that the property was won by the Kong family. Teotai Tsai, who is a personal friend of Mr. Kong Hung Yan, immediately cabled to him news of the discovery. It is said that the property is now worth over 900,000 taels. Hence Kong's hasty departure for Shanghai to take possession of the land and claim all arrears of rent.

CRUDE OPIUM DEALERS STOP TRADING.

A few days ago I reported that a proclamation was issued by the local authorities, announcing that all crude opium dealers were required to take out licences for selling crude opium from the 1st day of the 9th moon. It appears that besides taking out licences they have to report and register all sales of crude opium at the Bureau of Local Affairs where permits will be issued for each transaction. On the 1st day of the 9th moon many crude opium dealers went to the Bureau to register their sales, and to obtain permits to deliver goods to purchasers. At the Bureau they were told that the permits were not ready and that they had better stop trading for sometime. I am informed that this was only an excuse made by the officials as the local authorities are waiting for instructions from the Central Government to turn the opium business into a Government monopoly.

Leung Kit paid him all but \$200, and for this amount he gave an I.O.U. Therefore accused gave him a receipt for the whole amount.

Who was Mr. Greenwall?—A gentleman staying at the Connaught Hotel.

What was his business?—He did any kind of business.

Did you give him \$40 in consideration of his giving you a cheque for \$1,000 which was returned to him?—No.

What was it for?—Private business.

What was the nature of that business?—He was helping me in the office.

When he gave you the cheque you did not intend to put it in circulation?—No.

You told him so?—Yes.

What did you do with the \$1,834 you withdrew from the bank?—Put it into contracts.

Did you consider you were entitled to use Ko A Him's money for your own private business?—Yes, I considered the money a loan.

Did you consider this prospective contract with the Kowloon railway was in connection with the business you carried on at No. 33?—It was my own business, and nothing to do with the compradore unless he put up security.

Who paid Messrs. Almada and Smith for the compradore agreement?—Up to the present it has not been paid.

Do they look to you for payment?—The compradore and I pay half each.

Can you understand Chinese?—I know a few words.

Mr. Dixon—I know a few words, and have been here only a few years.

Re-examined—Where are the papers in connection with the sum of \$5,000 referred to?—With the British Consul in Canton.

Sit Leung Kit is claiming for \$5,000?—Yes.

That is for money that is not yet due?—That's so.

According to the agreement, that \$5,000 was placed at your disposal?—Yes.

You have dealt with that money just as if it belonged to you?—Yes.

Something has been said about a motor launch being sold for \$95?—Yes. It was a launch 35 feet long, decked fore and aft and contained 15 horse power, four cycle, two cylinder engines. The whole was valued at \$2,600. I arranged with the solicitors selling the boat to postpone the sale. The sale was withdrawn, but the boat was sold a few days later without being advertised in the local papers.

His Worship—A cheque of yours put in was stated to be dishonoured; can you explain that?—Yes. I gave Sit Leung Kit \$100 which I got from my brother, and asked him not to cash the cheque.

When you handed him the cheque it was good?—No, but I expected to put the money in the bank.

How much did you intend to pay Sit Leung Kit?—\$50.

Did he give you the other \$50 back?—No, he asked me to let it stand as the next month's interest.

After paying him the money did you again ask him for the cheque, and for a receipt?—He said he did not understand English, but would let me have them later.

Why did you start a second business?—Because these men came and asked me to start another office.

Have you any partners in the Eastern Commercial Co.?—No.

What's the capital?—I have a few thousand dollars of my own, and there was the compradore's security.

You lent Yeung \$1,000; what security have you?—I was told his people had money and he has a share in the compradanship.

That is the only security you have?—Yes.

Complainant, recalled, said he received one instalment of the \$3,000 he paid to defendant from Yeung Chik San. He received the money in the form of a cheque, but could not say what was on it as he was unable to read English. If he had known it was a false cheque he would not have paid over the \$2,000 to Mr. Holmes.

After Sit Leung Kit had been further examined, the solicitors addressed the Court, Mr. Dixon concluding at 5.40 p.m.

His Worship reserved his decision until Saturday morning at 9.30 a.m.

THE "PAUL BEAU" AFFAIR.

Our Canton correspondent writes: This matter is still the one topic of conversation amongst both the officials and the people here and the local newspapers daily comment on the subject. The demand for the surrender of the alleged pirates is being pressed by the Viceroy. It is reported that in one of the French Consul's recent dispatches he argued that, granted the alleged pirates were at one time in his custody, no official communication was made to him that the prisoners were pirates and he was therefore unable to surrender them to the Chinese Government, as he had no certain knowledge whether the prisoners were political offenders or pirates. The Viceroy replied that the officer of the No. 8 Regiment distinctly informed the Consul that the people whom the Chinese Government desired to arrest on board the "Paul Beau" were pirates and the officer even told the Consul that these pirates are confederates of the notorious pirate chief, Luk Lan Ching, who recently wrote many letters with a view to levying black-mail on several foreign firms on the Shameen, and also that these pirates took part in the "Sainam" piracy. The Viceroy reminded the Consul that the Chinese Government had formerly received communications from various Foreign Consuls on the Shameen with regard to pirates and had requested the Chinese Government to cause strict search to be made and have them arrested. Kong Hung Yan has addressed a letter to the French Consul couched in rather strong language in which he complains that his reputation has been seriously injured by the letter the French Consul recently sent to the Viceroy, and he plainly intimates that the Consul should make reparation for the slander.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

A FORTHCOMING BALL.

The Committee of the Military Club have issued invitations for a Ball on October 4th for the purpose of celebrating the victory at Quamato (Africa) last year achieved by forces under the command of our present Governor (Senhor Alves Rocadas). The fight was fought on September 27th last year, but as the 28th was the birthday of our late King Carlos, the Committee decided to postpone the Ball to October 4th.

A PUBLIC SCANDAL.

That the City should night after night be in total darkness in consequence of the failure of the electric lighting is a disgrace to the Municipal administration. Why does not the Leal Senado impose on the Electric Company the penalties provided for in the contract? Or, at least, why does not the Leal Senado insist on the Company keeping the public (kerosene) lanterns in readiness for use when the electric light fails? This, I understand, is another condition of the contract. The Leal Senado is as inactive as if it were no concern of theirs. Every now and then for weeks and months past the inefficiency of the electric installation has been demonstrated, and the seeming indifference of the Leal Senado has excited much surprise among the general public who are curious to know what the explanation of this inaction can be. Will the Chairman of the Corporation make a public statement on the subject? The members of the Leal Senado must be aware of what the public are prone to think about the matter.

TIMOR.

The Governor of Timor is now Senhor Eduardo Marques. The ex-Governor, Senhor Celestino, is remaining in the island until the 9th October with the object, it is said, of disposing of his large plantation. Senhor Marques has taken with him an entirely new set of officials with the object of reforming the administration. It would be a great thing if Timor were put in a position of financial independence—if, at least, Macao was relieved of contributing to her support.

DISTRESSING FATALITY AT KOWLOON.

EUROPEAN ELECTRICIAN KILLED.

Another tragedy has to be recorded this week, on the 1st instant Mr. F. H. Cornell, of the firm of Messrs Wilks and Jack, was killed, being crushed between the lift and the wall at the new godowns in course of construction at Kowloon for Messrs Butterfield Swire. Deceased was engaged in testing the hoist, which is not enclosed on all sides, and it is believed that while the lift was ascending he fainted, and falling over the side was crushed between the floor of the lift and the wall in the upward journey. The hoist was stopped as soon as possible, but too late to save the unfortunate man, who was terribly mutilated. Death must have been almost instantaneous.

Deceased, who came from Brisbane, was an experienced electrician, and distinguished in his calling, but he has been unfortunate in his affairs since coming to the East. In Peking and Tientsin he had a large and successful business but lost it through various reasons, and when he started in Hongkong he was equally unfortunate. Some time ago he joined the service of Messrs. Wilks and Jack, by whom his services were greatly appreciated, and his untimely end will be mourned by a large number of friends.

Deceased leaves a widow for whom great sympathy is expressed.

TYPHOON WARNINGS.

A VALUABLE SUGGESTION.

Father Algue, of the Manila Observatory, has informed Dr. Wilder, the American Consul General at Hongkong, that while there is no absolutely certain means of guarding the British Colony of Hongkong against surprises in the nature of small, but violent typhoons, matters could be vastly improved by closing the gap between Aparri, on the Island of Luzon, and Formosa, by erecting in the Balington Channel a station having telegraphic communication either with Manila or Hongkong, or, preferably, with both. The most suitable point for such station is Santo Domingo, Batanes Islands. But a well-nigh insurmountable difficulty lies in the cost. Father Algue mentions a suggestion that a wireless station would cost vastly less than a cable and would probably prove much more efficient. "Such an apparatus, capable of sending messages to a distance of 500 miles, if installed at Santo Domingo, could communicate directly with the wireless station of the British Fleet at Hongkong and the station of the U.S. Army at Manila. The co-operation of the military and naval authorities could be secured without difficulty. An additional safeguard, which together with the former would almost completely eliminate the danger of surprises would consist in equipping all the steamers which ply regularly in these waters, with wireless apparatus. Even if capable of sending messages only to distances up to 250 miles, the case would be rare in which timely warning of some prowling typhoon could not be given by at least one of them, either to Hongkong directly, or via Santo Domingo, or Manila."

FATAL FIRE AT HUNG HOM.

A fire attended with fatal results occurred at a house in Bulkley Street, Hung Hom, early on September 30th. The building which ignited was a three storey one, the ground floor being a shop and the upper storeys Chinese residences. The fire broke out in the shop, and must have spread with great rapidity, for although the Hung Hom detachment of the brigade were early on the scene, they were too late to save the burning building, although their efforts were successful in preventing the fire from spreading to the adjoining houses. The Hongkong brigade were speedily transferred, but on their arrival found that the local fire fighters had got the outbreak under way. On the police being informed that three persons were missing, a search was made among the debris and their bodies are reported to have been found. The buildings are said to have been insured for about \$3,000.

SUPREME COURT

Tuesday, September 29th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. H. H. J. GOMPHEZ (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

LANDLORD AND TENANT.

Judgment was given in the action in which Mr. P. W. Goldring, solicitor, claimed the sum of \$500 damages from the Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Limited, for breach of contract. The plaintiff alleged that the defendant firm failed to comply with an agreement whereby they undertook to keep the roof and exterior walls of the premises he occupied at Kowloon in a proper state of repair.

His Lordship, having reviewed the facts of the case, said that no structural defect was alleged and it appeared that the damage was caused by water which had accumulated in large quantities on the roof owing to the gutter pipes becoming blocked. The defence was that a long line of cases commencing in 1870 had established the principle that a landlord's covenant to repair was to be construed as a covenant to repair after notice and that no damages could be recovered unless the tenant had given the landlord notice of the defect. That doctrine the plaintiff fully admitted, but pointed out that the *ratio decidendi* of all those cases was that the premises being demised to the tenant and in his possession the landlord was not at liberty to visit them to ascertain their condition and that he was therefore dependant on the tenant for information as to their state. It was urged that whereas in this case the tenant was merely the occupant of a flat, the landlord, retaining possession of the roof, was bound himself to make such inspection as might be necessary to enable him to fulfil his covenant. His Lordship thought it clear on the facts that the plaintiff had not under his agreement of tenancy possession of the roof or right of access thereto and that he had no means of ascertaining its condition. The circumstances seemed to make it clear that the principle that notice must be given by the tenant was fundamentally based upon the circumstances of the tenancy. If notice by the tenant was necessary if and when the landlord has parted with the possession and control of the premises, it seemed to follow that notice was unnecessary where defects arose in portions of the tenement retained by the landlord in his own hands. The tenant in this case had no means of knowing the state of the roof and gutters; the landlord had. His Lordship found therefore that in this case no notice was necessary. That being so, what was the liability of the landlord under his covenant? His Lordship said he was bound to give a decision as to whether there had been negligence and he arrived at his decision as follows:—There was no evidence given for the defence that any inspection of the roof was made. He thought it was clearly the landlord's duty to inspect and not to wait for complaints from the tenant. The landlord possibly did not realise this and he probably considered that he did his duty if he repaired with reasonable expedition any defect reported by the tenant. His Lordship thought the defendant company was in this dilemma:—either the pipes had become choked by gradual accretion of matter extending over a long period of time or the obstruction was the effect of a storm of almost unparalleled violence which caused very great damage to house property, particularly to roofs. In the first contingency inspection at regular intervals would have shown the necessity for a periodical cleaning of the drain pipes. In the second he thought the storm caused a state of things which inspection would have revealed and which was bound to result in damage unless attended to in season. In either event he thought the landlord had not discharged his duty to the tenant. He therefore gave judgment for plaintiff with costs and referred the question of the amount of damage to the Registrar.

Mr. Hodgson asked for a stay of execution, pending appeal.

After some discussion Mr. Hodgson was given leave to make his application in Chambers.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Sept. 30th at the Board Room, Mr. C. McI Messer (President) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C. M. G. (Vice-President), Lieut. Col. Reid, the Hon. Mr. H. A. W. Slade, Messrs. A. Shelton Hooper, Lau Chu Pak, Fung Wa Chun, H. Humphreys, Dr. Pearce (Medical Officer of Health), and the following officials: Dr. Macfarlane (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), and A. Gibson (Secretary).

QUESTIONS.

Mr. HOOPER asked the following questions: "Whether any arrangement has been made whereby any officers of the Sanitary Department are required to ascertain and report on nuisances under Part III of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance 1903-1908 for the information of the Building Authority?"

"If so, has such arrangement received the sanction of His Excellency the Governor, and will the particulars of such arrangement be laid before the Board for their information?"

The PRESIDENT replied that the answer to both questions was "Yes," but the questions having been forwarded to the Government the following rules concerning the reports to be made to the Building Authority by sanitary inspectors had been returned:

In all cases enquiries should be made beforehand as to whether modifications have been granted covering the apparently illegal point. Whenever possible, measurements in support of the report should be given and the inspector should state where possible who, in his opinion, has caused the nuisance.

The following were among the rules: "Concrete of ground surfaces—Where floors and yards are reasonably clean no defects to be reported unless (a) some portion of the concrete is entirely destroyed, or (b) at least one square yard is in a very defective state, or (c) the surface of a considerable area is in a defective state, or (d) there is evidence of rat runs. Where floors are liable to be in a filthy condition by reason of any trade carried on, or where it is essential that they should be maintained in good condition, such as in bakeries, all defects are to be reported. A brief statement of the nature and extent of the defects should however be given.

Kitchen hoods and flues.—No reports to be made regarding these except in the case of eating houses or other trades for which flues must be maintained, unless a complaint has been received from some neighbouring occupier.

Waste pipes—Choked pipes to be dealt with by Sanitary Department under domestic cleanliness byelaws. Reports to Building Authority to be limited to broken pipes.

Glazed areas—No report to be made as regards sashes not being glazed unless (a) they have been boarded up or otherwise obstructed, or (b) the tenants complain of the want of glazing.

It was decided that the rules be circulated.

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

A letter was received from the Government relative to the purchase of steam lighters for the disposal of city refuse. It read as follows:

"With reference to the report of the committee appointed to consider various tenders submitted in connection with the disposal of city refuse dated 8th July, 1907, and to the consequent proposal to purchase three steam lighters for the disposal at sea of the refuse from the City and Hill District of the Colony, I am directed to state for the information of the Sanitary Board, that, in view of the recent letting of the scavenging contract at reduced figures, and of the large capital outlay which would be involved in the acquisition of the steam lighters recommended by the committee, the Government proposes to hold the project in abeyance."

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES.

The report of the committee appointed to report on the bye-laws governing the disinfection of infected premises, etc., was submitted. The committee appended a draft of the revised byelaws which were signed by Mr. H. Humphreys, the Registrar General, the Medical Officer of Health, and Mr. Lau Chu Pak.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (who was a member of this committee) forwarded a

letter to the President of the Board stating that he had signed, with the other members, the report, as he found himself in agreement with the bye-laws as far as they went. He wished, however, to add that in his opinion measles, whooping cough and puerperal fever should be included in the definition of "epidemic, endemic, contagious and infectious diseases" and contained in bye-law I under the head "Disinfection of infected premises," and bye-law 5 under the head "Removal of patients."

Mr. SLADE minuted—Measles and whooping cough can at any time be brought under this definition by special resolution if considered necessary.

Mr. HOOPER—I do not think measles or whooping cough should be included in the definition.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH stated that measles and whooping cough were not frequently notified and he did not anticipate they were likely to become epidemic. Consequently there did not seem to be much ground for calling a special meeting of the Board to have these diseases included in the list, but they ought to have power to deal with individual cases as they arose. They had to consider the protection they had to give to others and to the children themselves. These two diseases accounted for more deaths among children than all the other infectious diseases taken together. With regard to puerperal fever it was more infectious although not so frequent and he thought it should be included in the list.

Mr. HOOPER asked if the M. O. H. could tell whether measles and whooping cough were more prevalent in Hongkong than in England. The Doctor had referred to the practice in England but he would remind him that the Local Government Board had not included those two diseases in the list of infectious diseases to be notified.

The REGISTRAR GENERAL thought sleeping sickness and yellow fever were also rare, but that was no reason why they should not be included in the list.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH replied that he had not the figures beside him, but he could tell Mr. Hooper that measles and whooping cough were more prevalent in cold climates than in warm climates. With regard to Mr. Hooper's contention that the Local Government Board had not made the notification of measles and whooping cough compulsory, they had left it to the discretion of the local authorities, some of whom had made it compulsory and some had not.

The motion that puerperal fever be added to the list was carried, but the motion for the inclusion of measles and whooping cough was defeated.

BURNING JOSS STICKS IN CEMETERIES.

On the report of the committee appointed to consider the cemetery bye-laws being presented,

Mr. HOOPER said he disagreed with the majority of the members of the committee with regard to clause 12, prohibiting the burning of joss sticks in the Colonial Cemetery. It was a Chinese custom, and was not a part of Christianity. There were many cemeteries in the colony where he could be buried with those rites and no one would mind, but if Chinese preferred to be buried in the Colonial Cemetery which recognised no racial distinction nor creed, and among reputed Christians whose relatives went to the graves to pay their respects to the departed, it was not right that they should do so surrounded with customs belonging to another religion, and he thought they should not allow it. If the Board took a different view he would not go so far as to say that this practice should be prohibited altogether, but should be restricted to one section. He used the term "joss stick," and the only difference between the majority and himself was in one word. He did not like to use the word incense stick, although that was the correct definition of joss stick, because the word incense was employed by various Christian denominations. Whilst the Roman Catholics had their cemetery he would not object to them coming in to the Colonial Cemetery, yet if that clause were carried as framed it would prohibit them. The Church of England varied from high ritual to low ritual denominations and, as they knew, some of those used incense. If they used the word "incense" in the connection that he was speaking of, they could cut out a large proportion of the Church

of England. He thought they should be entitled to use it.

Mr. SLADE asked if there were any reasons for inserting that clause?

The PRESIDENT replied that Mr. Hooper had complained to him about joss sticks being burned, and crackers fired in the Colonial Cemetery.

Mr. HOOPER—I have had more than one complaint about it. I have witnessed it myself.

The REGISTRAR GENERAL—Are non-Christian Chinese buried in the Colonial Cemetery?

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—Some are.

The PRESIDENT—As a matter of fact there is nothing to stop a Chinaman from being buried there.

The REGISTRAR GENERAL—As a matter of fact are non-Christian Chinese buried in the Protestant Cemetery?

The PRESIDENT—You mean the Colonial Cemetery? There is no such thing as a Protestant Cemetery.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—Most of them are Christians.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK—Many of them are not.

Mr. HOOPER—That strengthens my argument.

The PRESIDENT—I move that the report of the committee be adopted.

The VICE PRESIDENT seconded.

Mr. HOOPER moved as an amendment to clause 12 that the word "joss stick" be substituted for "incense" stick.

Mr. HUMPHREYS seconded.

The amendment was carried.

WATER TANKS IN BACK YARDS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY wrote as follows regarding this question:—"I am directed to inquire what opinion the Sanitary Board hold with regard to the minimum area of yard in which the construction of cisterns may be permitted by the Building Authority without reference to the Board. The Director of Public Works is disposed to suggest an area of 60 square feet as the minimum."

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH minuted—Most back yards in the Colony are little more than ventilating shafts, and the erection of cisterns of reasonable size in them will not appreciably detract from their value as such. The yard should, however, not be obstructed to such a degree with cisterns and latrines as to leave insufficient space for the temporarily placing in of other things, which it may be undesirable to keep in a room or kitchen, so as to leave no space for moving about in a yard. Sometimes we find almost the whole of a yard taken up by a large tank used for trade purposes. I think such should be permitted only specially and not generally. For general purposes I suggest that 60 square feet be taken as a minimum sized yard, and that the tank be not more than three feet square and four feet high: this would hold about 125 gallons of water. The tank should have a good cover so as to prevent contamination by flushing of dirty water from upper floors, and ought to have an automatic anti-reflux inlet, so as to do away with the necessity of uncovering to fill it. The position of the tank in the yard with relation to privies, waste pipes, etc., is important, and none should be permitted before their positions have been approved.

REOCCUPATION OF HOUSES.

A petition was forwarded from several Chinese praying that their houses at Hok Un might be released.

Dr. MACFARLANE reported that he had made a survey of the place and found that there were 1,000 persons living in 212 huts. The general sanitary conditions were in many cases very bad indeed, and it would be quite useless trying to improve them. The walls were loose stones, making rat runs, and the floors were of mud. They were certainly overcrowded in many places. The village appeared to be a cheap lodging house for cement works and dock coolies. As the closure was made on account of plague he did not think there would be any risk in opening them for the next five months so far as plague was concerned, but he considered that steps should be taken to remove this village, as it was far too close to the ordinary built-over area. The village type plan could be used in its place. The few who were genuine villagers and the coolies could get permanent floors at the rate of about 20 to a floor under the new law which did not make it

expensive for them. The plague figures had already been given. Many of the cases in Hung Hom could be more or less traced to this area. Cats, if enough were kept, would no doubt do good, but he did not see how the present staff would be able to make sure that enough cats were kept, so that cat keeping would depend on the people themselves more or less. They could not get rid of the fleas in the houses.

A letter was received from Messrs Shewan, Tomes and Company expressing the hope that the application to inhabit the huts near the Green Island Cement Works would be refused as it was a source of danger to have these insanitary dwellings occupied by people so near a large works such as theirs.

Mr. SHEPHERD HOOPER minuted—I consider that the buildings should be demolished as they are a source of danger to the whole neighbourhood.

The PRESIDENT remarked that if the houses were closed altogether it would mean the displacement of 1,000 people.

Mr. HOOPER said the question involved was a large one, and as it concerned such a large number and such a large amount of property he thought they should not be too hasty in allowing the people to go back. He thought the proper course would be to propose to the Government the question of resuming this area, and when they received the reply from the Government they could consider the question. He moved that they strongly recommend the Government to resume this area.

Mr. HUMPHREYS seconded. He did not agree with the President that because those people, who were probably squatters, were there before the Cement Works they should be considered as having special rights.

The REGISTRAR GENERAL moved that a committee be appointed to obtain further information on the subject.

This was not seconded and Mr. Hooper's motion was carried, by five votes to one.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 5th instant, the death rate of the whole Colony based on a death rate per 1,000 per annum, was 22.7, while for the succeeding week it was 25.8 as against 20.9 for the corresponding week of last year.

RAT RETURN.

The rat return showed that during the week ending 19th instant 736 rats were caught, and six were found to be infected. In the succeeding week ten infected rats were found out of a total of 924 captured.

A DELAYED ANSWER.

Mr. HOOPER asked the President when he might hope to receive a reply to the question which he had addressed to the Board in May last. He had had no communication whatever on the subject and when he renewed the question a month ago he was informed that the Government were not ready with the information. The question referred to the number of houses affected by section 175 of the Building Ordinance.

The PRESIDENT—I sent a reminder to the Building Authority and he replied: "It is impossible to say when it can be given. The work has not been touched owing to the officers being called to more pressing business such as collapse inquiries etc."

Mr. HOOPER—I think that might have been communicated to me.

The PRESIDENT—It only came to day—a quarter of an hour ago.

Mr. HOOPER—I regret very much that such an unsatisfactory answer should have been given. To my mind it is not an answer at all. The Building Authority under the new Ordinance undertook certain work, and if they are not able to carry it out, it is the duty of that Authority to inform the Government and ask for the necessary staff. I know as a matter of fact that the staff has been engaged on other work which is quite unnecessary. I give formal notice that at the next meeting I will move a resolution—provided I do not in the meantime receive the information I have asked for—bearing on the subject.

A resolution to establish a municipal dairy farm at Singapore was to be moved at a meeting of the Singapore Municipal Council on the 25th inst.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The annual meeting of the members of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club was held on September 26th at the Cricket Club Pavilion, the Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C. M. G., presiding over a good attendance.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings said that was the first meeting of members since the opening of the new clubhouse and the reason they had met there that afternoon was that they hoped to get a larger attendance by assembling in that central locality. The report had been in their hands for several days and with their permission he would take it as read. The accounts would be explained later by the Treasurer. They showed a satisfactory state of affairs. The club-house, he thought they would admit, was a very substantial and commodious structure, and was situated in a very salubrious and convenient locality. Their boats were in a thoroughly good state. They had no less than four new four-oared boats by the best English makers and two two-oared boats. That ought to give a considerable impetus to rowing. He was happy to state that yachting seemed to have taken an upward turn. They had a new one-design class in course of construction, the design of one of the best designers of small boats in England, and he hoped they would witness some good sport in the new class. Proceeding, he said he was unable to be present at the opening of the club house and he took that opportunity of wishing the club every success in its new abode. The selection of a site so far east had occasioned some comment and as he, perhaps more than anybody else, had been responsible for the amalgamation of the Boat Club and the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club and for the selection of the site, he would remind them that not many years ago it was proposed to carry out a large reclamation along Praya East. In anticipation of that reclamation it was necessary to select a site where they would not be likely to be disturbed. Some, however, thought there was no need to go so far east so soon, but there was no doubt it was only a question of time, and sooner or later they would have had to go. Now that they had got a permanent home in such pleasant surroundings he hoped the club would be more largely patronised than it was at present by the community. Rowing and yachting were both national sports in Great Britain and why they were not more popular here he did not know. Rowing was fairly popular, but yachting seemed to become less popular each year. The club was a thoroughly sporting organisation. They were not like the great club over the way. They provided a special room and cordially welcomed ladies. They were not like the other Royal club in the colony which would not admit ladies on an equal footing in the ancient game of golf although he would make bold to say that fifty per cent of the ladies could lick the head of the men. (laughter) No, there was nothing mean about them. They provided a ladies room, and he thought rowing men would be willing to row against a ladies four. With regard to yachting, they had ladies who had taken charge of the steering in club races and they hoped when they had the new one-design class to have ladies racing for club prizes in that class. There fore he thought their club deserved a higher place in a sport loving community than it at present received. There was another characteristic of the club to which he would like to refer. It possessed a large German element, and that element had done a great deal for their rowing in the past. (Hear, hear). He was told that at present there was a movement on foot to form a German four. He wished it every success. That was what they wanted—a little healthy rivalry in sport as well as in higher things. The only fault he had to find with our German cousins was that they did not go in for yachting as much as they ought to. He remembered some years ago when the Royal Navy offered a club prize for yachting. He did his best to win it and the Dione came in first; but one of the sons of the Fatherland snatched the cup from him on his time allowance. Next to winning it himself, he was glad to see it going to one of our German cousins. They would remember when they had Prince Henry of Prussia in Hongkong for three weeks.

It gave him great pleasure to know that a German had won the cup, and he (the speaker) was quite sure that nothing would give greater pleasure to his Imperial Brother than to see German yachtsmen coming to the front in the Far East. It was for the members to do what they could to make the club a greater power. He had done his best for it over a good many years. For many years he was chairman of the Boat Club and for more years than he could remember at present he had been commodore of the Yacht Club. It was his intention to withdraw from that office and to allow some one else to see if he could not infuse more life into the club than he had been able to do. He would always take an interest in the club and would watch its progress in its new domicile on the committee if they would elect him to that position.

Mr. H. G. WHITE moved the adoption of the report of accounts and in doing so explained that the Club House stood at cost, but they would observe a balance of \$3,966.75 against it in the form of capital account, the latter consisting of the funds with which the Club started, together with the other assets at the commencement, less losses of those assets and with the addition of the periodical balances of the Working Account. The credit of the present Working Account would go to this and they could therefore look upon capital account as a General Reserve against contingencies. He expected that as all doubtful assets had been cleared off this Capital Account should substantially increase. The debentures should be paid off as soon as they got funds, as interest was a very heavy item. When this had been reduced to a reasonable amount the question of decreasing subscriptions might arise, but not for a few years yet. The Working Account was fairly satisfactory and if interest on the debentures was considered compared favourably with previous years.

Lieut. Col. BROKE seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. BLASON moved the re-election of Mr. May as Commodore of the Club.

Hon. Mr. MAY regretted he could not accept the position. He had, he said, been commodore of the Club for twelve years and the position was one which took up considerable time. He was not going to race this year and he felt that the Commodore of the Club should take an active part in the racing. His boat was going to race, but if yachting was not at such a low ebb in Hongkong he would withdraw her and strike his flag, but he was not going to desert the Club, and they would still have the Dione to account for (applause). He might add that she would still be steered by a May in Ladies' races. (applause)

Hon. Mr. Pollock was then unanimously elected Commodore, and the following Committees were elected by ballot:—Yachting—Hon. Mr. F. H. May, Rear Admiral Stokes, Mr. H. W. Bird, Captain H. J. Walker R.E., Mr. H. P. Tooker, Mr. A. B. Rouse; Rowing—Lt. Col. H. Broke, Messrs E. W. Carpenter, F. W. Warre, H. W. Lester, C. Koenig, and W. B. Stanton. These Committees were instructed to appoint the general committee.

There was no other business.

The Report of the General Committee stated:

The members and subscribers on the register for the year ending 31st August, 1908 number 159, Absent Members 38, including 45 new members and 15 new naval or military subscribers, also 2 honorary members, and the Club has lost 14 members by resignation, and 2 by death. The Club removed to the new premises at Shan-ki-wan, in February, the Clubhouse being formally opened by His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard on the 21st March, 1908, with the customary rites. The best thanks of the Committee and the Club are due to Mr. E. W. Carpenter for the care and attention he has devoted to the building of the new Clubhouse, the Club being now in possession of one of the finest and most suitable buildings for the purpose in the East, mainly due to his unremitting and self-sacrificing zeal. The Honorary Secretaryship and Treasurership, vacated by Mr. G. G. Franklin on his leaving for Japan, has been taken over by Mr. Hedley G. White.

Rowing Report (by Lieut. Col. Broke) states—Since the last Report the Rowing

tion of the Club has experienced much trouble. A very "scientific" Senior Four, including Messrs. Warre, Franklin and Lt. Bonham, was broken up by the departure of Mr. Franklin—a great loss to the rowing—and the invaliding of Lt. Bonham. The shift to the new Clubhouse and (though it seems unreasonable) the wait for the new Cruickshank design boats, seemed to discourage the less experienced rowing members. A competition for fixed seat fours last autumn resulted in very satisfactory training for two crews but owing to influenza and other distractions, the race did not come off. The long-expected boats arrived in February, but even then it was hard to raise any enthusiasm; only one crew was successful at the Hongkong Regatta, though it is only fair to state that the stations on the course seemed unequal; the same course was used early in 1905, and I find no comment of that time. Since then, there has been much rowing, and distinct improvement in form and steadiness amongst many of our junior members. But the fixed-seat prizes again failed to raise even two scratch crews in May, and until the junior oarsmen realize that good beginning and finish are only to be learnt on fixed seats, I hope the Cruickshank cups may remain on the mantelpiece of the bar parlour. It is a matter of sincere regret that the Club has been unable, even in conjunction with the V.R.C. to form a crew to go to Shanghai. It would have been an enjoyable trip and an excellent experience in change of water to all engaged, but the summer has been very trying, and our best men are unable to get away. The Committee is unanimous that an inferior crew should not go in view of the fact that Shanghai has never visited Hongkong. It is hoped that the numerous and keen junior oars now practising will not be too shy to ask for coaching, nor too proud to row on fixed seats and in heavy boats, and that the older and more experienced members will devote some portion of their hard-earned leisure to teaching, if not to actual example. There is plenty of good material in the Club to sweep the board, not only here, but at Canton and elsewhere, if it is polished by the older hands, and if it will bear in mind that rowing is an art which, though not naturally acquired, still can be acquired more quickly than golf, and unlike golf, gives pleasure and healthful exercise at every stroke. But the would-be oarsman must be willing to try all the time to remember that there are others in the boat, probably more pumped than he himself, and must not shirk practice to go muffin-hunting. The V.R.C. hope to have sundry open races in December, at which I hope the Yacht Club will show up well.

WATER POLO Report (by Mr. F. A. Biden) states: This season has not been so successful as last year, owing mainly to slackness in not turning up for practice in the early part of the season. Owing to sickness of several of the first team, our position was only fourth in the League Matches, being equal with the 87th Coy. R.G.A. Of the three friendly matches played, we lost one, and won two. The 2nd team played several matches with varied success. The goal posts and bamboo for marking out the field are in good condition.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

The annual meeting of the members of the Hongkong Cricket Club was held on September 29th at the Pavilion. Dr. Atkinson presided, and there were present Messrs. W. C. D. Turner and T. E. Pearce (members of committee), H. R. Makin, A. S. Cobden, A. O. Brawn, Lieut. G. R. Home (3rd Mid.), P. Jacks, E. A. M. Williams, F. I. Gelsthorpe, M. E. Asger, R. P. Carter and H. A. Clothier.

The report on the working of the Club and the Accounts for the year ending 31st August, 1908, stated:—The Income and Expenditure Account shows a surplus of \$95.41 which has been added to the Reserve Account, now standing \$5,622.92. \$45.00 has been written off the assets to provide for bad debts, and \$164.35 has been written off to provide for depreciation on furniture. It is again the regret of the Committee that the funds do not allow of the redemption of \$1,500.00 debentures according

to the deed. Debenture interest \$867.00 has been allowed for in the accompanying accounts and has since been paid. There was a larger number of absent members and resignations during the year, but the cricket and racquets expenses have decreased. The receipts of the cricket, tennis and racquets gear on the other hand also show a decrease. The pavilion bar showed an improvement of \$150 as compared with the previous year. In response to an invitation Shanghai sent a team down in November last and was defeated by the home team by four wickets. The thanks of the Club are due to the community for so generously subscribing towards an entertainment fund which enabled the Club to extend suitable hospitality to its visitors and to make the Interport week a decided success. Hongkong sustained a reverse at the hands of Shanghai at tennis, Mr. H. Hancock being defeated by Mr. H. de Voss in the Singles by three sets to one and in the Doubles Capt. H. M. Beasley, R.A. and Lt. T. A. Whyte, R.A. were defeated by Messrs. H. de Voss and A. G. H. Carruthers by three sets to two. It is the Committee's regret that they find it impossible to accept Singapore's renewed invitation to send a Hongkong or China team. The Club has been invited to send a team to Shanghai during the coming season and has accepted. The Club played 11 matches against Shanghai, the Navy and Garrison, etc., of which 7 were won, 3 drawn and 1 lost. There were also played several other matches (such as "Longs" v. "Shorts," etc.) The following individual scores of 100 and over were made:—Mr. R. O. Hu'ohison, 115 (retired). Mr. T. E. Pearce, 104; Mr. R. Hancock, 102. Mr. T. E. Pearce heads the batting average with 36.53 and Major H. E. Lewis, (119th Inf.) the bowling averages, with 17 wickets for 123 runs, or 7.35 runs per wicket. Owing to the departure of Mr. T. C. Gray the interest of the Hongkong "A" team in their League lagged and several matches were scratched. The Committee regret that for the same reason they are unable to publish the average of the "A" team players. The Annual Lawn Tennis Match against the L. R. C. was played in May and resulted in an easy win for the Club by 69 games to 39. The Lawn Tennis Tournament was played in March, April and May. Mr. C. A. Carr won the Championship and the "A" Class Single Handicap. The "B" Single Handicap was won by Major E. W. R. Stephenson (3rd Middlesex Regiment). Messrs. H. Pinckney and Mr. H. Hancock were the winners of the Professional Pairs and the Doubles Handicap was won by Messrs. C. A. Carr and W. G. Worcester. The Racquets Tournament again fell through for want of support, also the competition for the Championship of 1907. During the year 14 new members joined the Club. The total number of members is now 584 and there are 25 naval subscribers. The thanks of the Club are due to Messrs. C. H. Blason, A.C.A., and C. F. Fird, A.C.A., for kindly auditing the accounts. During Mr. F. Maitland's absence from the Colony the Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson acted as President of the Club. The other Members who served on the Committee during the past year were:—Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Messrs. R. Hancock, H. Hancock, W. C. D. Turner, H. R. Phelps, T. E. Pearce, T. C. Gray, Major H. E. Lewis (119. Inf.), Major E. W. R. Stephenson (2nd Middlesex Regiment), and Lt. E. W. Isaacson, R.N.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the publication of the report had been delayed by the illness of those entrusted with the work, and their thanks were due to Messrs. Blason and Bird who undertook the work practically at the last moment. During the past season the committee had gone carefully into the question of the finances of the club and, as would be seen, several economies had been effected. For instance, in the running of the cricket there had been a saving of \$800 in the expenses, the total being \$3,936 as against \$4,712 last year. Under the head of cricket gear, purchases were much more than in the previous year. That was a favourable sign, because it indicated they should not have to spend so much money this year on cricket gear. There was a very good stock at present. The income showed a decrease in subscriptions and entrance fees, and there was also a loss in the sale of racquets and tennis gear. Notwithstanding these, he

thought they might congratulate themselves upon the fact that there was a balance of \$95 on the year's working, in addition to which there had been \$164 out off depreciation of furniture and \$45 written off for bad debts. Had these amounts been included there would have been a balance of over \$300. Compared with the small deficit of last year, this was a favourable indication that they were improving their financial position. A most important matter with regard to last season was the interport match which they managed to win, but not by a large margin—four wickets. He was quite sure he was expressing the opinion of all cricketers when he hoped that those matches would become fixtures. (applause). These interport matches had been played for several years, but unfortunately this year Hongkong was not able, owing to various causes, to send as strong a team as they would have liked, but rather than interrupt the sequence of the matches they had decided to send up an eleven which they trusted would give a good account of themselves.

The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. TURNER seconded by Mr. PEARCE.

Dr. ATKINSON was elected president. In thanking the members for the honour they had done him, he expressed the hope that they would have a return of interest in the game. The committee had decided to enter two elevens and there would always be one league match on the ground. A card would be printed giving the list of important matches.

Owing to the votes for two gentlemen being equal the ballot for members of committee had to be taken a second time, with the following result: Lieut. Isaacson, R.N., R. Hancock, T. Pearce, Makin, W. C. D. Turner, Major Stephenson, H. Hancock, and H. R. Phelps.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that the green would be open on October 1st for general use, and he hoped that members would do their utmost to induce others to join.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the business.

THE HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Football Club was held at the Hongkong Hotel on Sept. 29th. Mr. Frank Browne presided, and there were also present Messrs. W. M. Weston, W. J. Daniel, E. F. Aucott, B. C. M. Johnson and W. H. Williams (members of committee), Mr. H. L. O. Garrett (secretary) and a fair attendance of members.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting, and

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, thought members could congratulate themselves on their very satisfactory nature. They had won the shield after nine defeats, and had been successful in a match against a Shanghai team. This success, he considered, was largely due to the training and skilful handling of the team by its captain, Mr. E. R. Aucott—(applause). He was in a position to know that the Club was not a strong one, for he had unfortunately been on the selection committee, and had found that it was a very difficult task. They were without sufficient players to make up for the ordinary wear and tear of the football season, the result being that in the final last year there were three players on the field who should more properly have been in bed. For the future they wanted many more reserves, and at least seven were necessary when the semi final stage was reached. As usual the Rugby team had been keen, and the number of matches had been kept up to the record. The accounts were very good, and showed a substantial credit balance, but there was one item which had caused a lot of trouble; that was the amount put down under "care of ground, etc." This item had been cropping up for years, but the committee at last applied themselves to put a stop to what they considered nothing more or less than an exaction on the part of the ground man. The speaker would be disappointed if when they met next year the amount of \$467 was not reduced to \$300. Finding that they were paying a good deal for the upkeep of the stands and dressing rooms, they had decided to enter into a contract, and he thought they had secured a satisfactory bargain. A cup had been presented to the Club by

Mrs. David, and the committee thought it might be handed to the Shield Committee for presentation to the runners-up in the Shield Competition. He was sure he was only expressing the feelings of members when he said they owed a very great deal to their genial and energetic hon. secretary, Mr. Garrett (applause); likewise to the captains of teams, the hon. treasurer, and to all who had taken part in the management of the Club (applause). If there were no questions to answer, he would move the adoption of the report and accounts.

Several questions were raised, but the CHAIRMAN informed those seeking information to apply again when they come to miscellaneous business.

Mr. MEAD seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—President, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson; Rugby captain, Mr. F. C. Hall; Association captain, Mr. W. M. Weston; Treasurer, Mr. F. J. Howell; Secretary, Mr. H. L. Garrett; Members of Committee, Messrs. E. F. Aucott, F. Browne, P. W. Goldring, E. Humphreys, G. D. McIlwraith and W. B. Stanton.

It was agreed that Rugby caps and Association badges should be awarded to the best players in such teams.

Mr. MEAD said he had been asked to put a question to the meeting in case of a challenge from Shanghai. He wished to know whether the interport team would be selected from all clubs in the Colony, or from the Hongkong Football Club?

Mr. DANIEL—Will Shanghai play a representative team, or the Shanghai Club?

The CHAIRMAN—The whole Settlement. I presume they sent a representative team down to us?

A Member—No. They were all members of the Shanghai Football Club.

The CHAIRMAN—It seems to me that this is rather a difficult question to answer, but I presume if we have enough members of our own we might as well play a Hongkong Football Club team. If we have not, personally I don't see any reason why we should not go outside.

Mr. MORFEY proposed that the matter be left to the discretion of the committee.

The CHAIRMAN—There are a number of considerations affecting the composition of the team that will go, and I think the committee will do its best to elect as good a team as possible. If the invitation is worded so that we can send only a Club team we shall have to confine ourselves to the Club. If we are allowed a certain amount of latitude and it is easier for us to send a team including outside members, we shall go outside.

The matter was left in the hands of the committee.

It was agreed that the cup presented by Mrs. David should be presented to the runners up in the Shield Competition, and that the matter of forming a Rugby League should be left in the hands of the captain of the Rugby team.

The six-aside competitions will take place as heretofore, and entries for the same close next Wednesday.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

Lord and Lady Northcote arrived in Hongkong on Sept. 28 by the "Kumano Maru". Lord Northcote is returning from Australia where he has been a very popular governor of the Commonwealth. After the steamer had dropped anchor the N.Y.K.'s launch, with Sir Frederick Lugard's aide-de-camp, Mr. T. Funatsu, Japanese Consul, and Mr. B. Mori, representing the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, approached and greeted the distinguished visitors. A reception was held at Government House last night in honour of the visitors. It is understood that Lord and Lady Northcote will proceed to Japan by the same steamer, and continue the journey to Vancouver on board a C. P. R. steamer.

Baron Hayashi, accompanied by Baroness and Miss Hayashi, were passengers on the "Tamba Maru," which arrived here yesterday. They are bound for Marseilles en route to Germany, where the ambassador represents his country at Berlin.

A SOLICITOR'S SUICIDE.

A profound sensation was created in the city on Sept. 27th when it became known that Mr. Reginald Harding had taken his life, and the tragic end of the young solicitor was the topic of mournful interest to quite a large circle. He had not been seen much of late but no one would have thought that he was likely to commit suicide. He had no financial difficulties. As a matter of fact he is stated to have had several thousand pounds bequeathed to him quite recently and whatever troubles he may have had they were not apparent to his friends.

The circumstances are simple. Deceased had been living in the Connaught House Hotel for some little time and had kept rather closely to his room of late. Yesterday morning at half-past seven the report of a pistol was heard and when the manager and others rushed to his room they found Mr. Harding lying on a rattan chair on the verandah with a bullet wound in his right temple and a smoking pistol at his side. The bullet had passed right through the head and was found on the floor. A glance was sufficient to show that he was dead and when the medical men arrived later they stated that death must have been instantaneous. The body, which was partly dressed, was removed to the mortuary.

It is known that prior to his death a woman was in his room, as it was her shrieks following the pistol shot, which told that something of an unusually serious import had occurred. She was at first quite hysterical but was afterwards quietened. One report suggested that deceased had been privately married at Canton but of that there is no confirmation.

The weapon which Mr. Harding used against himself was a Browning automatic revolver. On the table in his room was found a letter addressed to the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

Deceased, who was about 33 years of age, was the youngest son of the late Mr. Joseph Harding, of the well known firm of Messrs. Harding, Richards and Thomas, wine merchants and proprietors and founders of the St. Anne's Well Brewery Company, Exeter. His father's residence was at Northbrook, a suburb of the Cathedral City. Mr. Harding came to Hongkong some four or five years to Messrs. Ewens and Harston, of which firm he became a partner. He severed his connection with the firm last year and set up in practice for himself.

The funeral took place at Happy Valley on Tuesday evening.

KULANGSU MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council, held at the Board Room, on the 8th September 1908.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Chairman), J. S. Fenwick, Huang Tsam-chew, W. Kruss, S. Okuyam, the Health Officer and the Secretary.

THE REGISTRATION OF DEATHS.

Mr. Huang Tsam-chew enquired whether the present regulations regarding the registering of deaths and the issue of burial permits, could not be made less stringent. It was explained to him that the regulations were framed specially in the interests of the Chinese themselves, and it was only by insisting on these regulations being strictly carried out that the Council could hope to cope successfully with the spread of infectious diseases, and more especially the present epidemic of cholera.

As regards allowing burials to take place in places other than at Lai-choo-oh, the Council was always prepared to consider special cases, providing application be made in sufficient time, but it must be remembered that in infectious cases early interment was desirable.

POLICE RETURN.

The Superintendent of Police reported that the following cases had been dealt with at the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—Summons.—Breach of agreement 1; assault 4; illegally retaining possession of a house 1; breach of new opium regulations 4; illegal arrest 1; contempt of Court 1; failing to report a death 1; breach of the conditions of a theatre permit 2; allowing pigs and cattle to stray 1. Summary Arrests.—Committing a nuisance 2; escaping from lawful custody 1; breach of new opium regulations 3; assault 2.

THE BUILDING COLLAPSE AT YAUMATI.

THE INQUEST.

The inquiry into the deaths of six Chinese brought about by the collapse of house No. 36, Portland Street, Yaumati, during the typhoon of 27th-28th July, was continued before Mr. J. H. Kemp and a jury at the Magistracy on Sept. 29th. Mr. F. M. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, represented the Crown.

Mr. H. E. Haggard, assistant engineer in the Public Works Department, was recalled. He stated that Mr. Tooker inspected No. 36, Portland Street on November 3rd, 1902, after receipt of a letter written by Messrs. Palmer and Turner to the Director of Public Works. The tie rods suggested by Mr. Tooker were put in and on that gentleman's instruction on February 18th, 1903, witness issued a certificate that the houses had been completed in accordance with the requirements of the Ordinance. Until after the typhoon this year witness had nothing more to do with these houses. On the 12th of this month he visited the houses in question, and made a plan showing the condition they were in. There were straps along the party walls and end walls, their object being to tie the end walls and back walls together. These straps were absolutely different to ordinary tie rods. The whole of the verandah and part of the wall was down at the corner houses; also all the roof from the front to the first cross wall. The back yard and kitchens were intact, but all the floors of Nos. 35, 37 and 39 had fallen in. There was practically no bonding in the brickwork between the party walls and the front wall. Witness thought the party wall of No. 35 fell into Pitt Street. The flank and cross wall of 35 appeared to be cracked at the junction and showed no bonding. The flank wall was built of Canton red bricks of fair quality, but the mortar was bad. Witness did not find any adhering to the fallen bricks. Cracks were noticeable in those portions of the wall still standing. In the party wall between Nos. 39 and 41 there were a considerable number of cracks.

Do you consider the defects in materials and workmanship which you have mentioned would contribute to the fall of the houses?—Yes.

Since 1902 have the requirements with regard to walls of the dimensions of this one been increased?—Yes, under the new ordinance.

Mr. J. Hutchings, inspector of buildings, said he was in charge of the western portion of Hongkong. Mr. Dobbs was in charge of Kowloon until he went home on leave on April 1st. Then witness had the western half of Kowloon added to his Hongkong work. He visited the buildings on July 28th, about noon, and gave orders for the pulling down of portion of the building which he considered dangerous. He also had the corner of the verandah of 35 shored up. The portions tinted red on the plans in Court had all fallen when he visited the place. The brick work in the flank wall of 35 was not well bonded, while the mortar used was bad. Most of the bricks which had fallen were clean. If the mortar had been good witness would have expected to find the greater portion in blocks. He thought the collapse started with the flank wall, and that brought down the rest of the building. The foundations of the buildings were very weak, and a settlement was probably the principal cause of the cracks in the walls. After five years, mortar should be at its maximum strength.

Mr. H. W. Bird, a partner in the firm of Messrs. Palmer and Turner, architects, said he had been connected with the firm for 16 years. He had no partnership agreement. The notice of July 16th, 1900, regarding these buildings was signed by Mr. Turner, and a subsequent one bore Mr. Palmer's signature. The plan produced was prepared in the office of Messrs. Palmer and Turner. His firm was employed by the owners to design the houses and supervise construction. The contract was dated 25th September, 1900. Witness could not say who prepared the specifications. The contractors in the original contract were four men trading as Sam Kee. Sam Kee did not complete the contract. It was taken over by the Shing Hing Kee Co., of which Li Chuk and Luk

Hang were the partners. Work was taken out of Sam Kee's hands in March, 1902, as they could not get him to complete. Witness did not know whether these firms were still carrying on business. Mr. Turner generally looked after this contract, but Mr. Palmer and witness inspected it occasionally. He thought the foundation trenches were passed by Mr. Turner. No piles were put in. There was swampy ground further along than this particular lot.

Mr. Bowley:—Isn't it probable that this is reclaimed ground?—I don't think so.

If the ground is soft isn't it necessary to pile the foundation?—It depends altogether on the sort of building you are going to put up.

As a matter of practice you excavate until you get to something solid, don't you?—Until we consider we have got a good foundation.

The hearing was adjourned.

At the Magistracy on September 30th before Mr. J. H. Kemp and a jury, the inquiry into the death of six Chinese, occasioned by the collapse of No. 36, Portland Street, Yaumati, was continued.

The examination of Mr. H. W. Bird (of the firm of Messrs. Palmer and Turner) was continued by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor.

Witness stated that portion of farm lot No. 1, on which the houses in question stood, was between the village of Mati and the sea.

That shows, does it not, that the site of these houses had not been cut down?—It does not follow at all. There's a farm lot close by that is almost entirely hillside.

Is it not usual to specify for piles, if necessary, when buildings are close to the sea?—No, if piles are found necessary they are put in, and the extra charge paid.

Can you make a contract or put in piles under that contract?—Certainly, if pay extra.

Your contract does not provide for piles?—No.

In the specification you specify for the mortar to be half lime and half red earth?—That is so.

That is very much more lime than is usually specified for, is it not?—No.

Do you know if the mortar was tested while the works were proceeding?—I don't suppose it was.

Had you a European foreman on the job?—We had.

You remember that five verandahs collapsed on this lot on May 14th, 1902?—Yes.

Do you know what caused that collapse?—The heavy rain, I think.

Did you see the buildings after that collapse?—I did.

You've heard Mr. Haggard's report of 6th June. Did you observe the serious cracks he mentions?—Yes.

And did you have the whole block pulled down as he suggested?—No.

Was Mr. Haggard's report communicated to you?—I believe so.

Did you report it to the owners?—That I don't know, but the collapse was reported to them.

Was any part of the building pulled down after that collapse?—The damaged portions of the verandahs in question. It didn't all collapse.

What steps did you take with regard to the very serious cracks in other parts of the building?—I don't know of any steps being taken.

When you signed the application for inspection did you satisfy yourself that these houses had been built in accordance with the Ordinance?—Sufficiently in accordance with the Ordinance to be passed.

A report of Mr. Crisp stated that after inspection he found the whole block in a very unsound condition. Do you consider that report is correct?—No, I don't consider the block was in an unsound condition.

Do you admit that the party walls were not bonded?—No, I don't.

Do you admit the mortar was very poor?—It was not first class.

It was not up to specification?—No.

Wasn't it the duty of your firm to see it was up to specification?—It was the duty of the foreman.

Answer "yes" or "no" whether it was the duty of your firm?—I shall not answer that question.

I shall call upon the Court to ask you to answer that question.

His Worship—You must answer.

Witness—It was the duty of the foreman.

Mr. Bowley—The answer is "No."

I presume you are familiar with the provisions of the Building Ordinance?—Pretty well, I think.

And your firm undertook the responsibility under section 70 of 1889 by signing the notice?—They did.

You've admitted the walls were cracked in places, the mortar inferior, and the bonding defective. Do you still say these buildings were in a sound condition?—There was nothing seriously wrong with them.

Did you only build the houses in order that they might wriggle through the Building Inspector's inspection?

Mr. Bird—I don't wish to answer that question.

You think if a house passes the Building Inspector it is sufficient?

Mr. Bird did not wish to answer.

His Worship—It is a fair question.

Mr. Bird—a Building Inspector considers a building all right, it must be all right. He is a man put there by the Government to inspect and say whether a building is built in accordance.

What do you consider the life of houses of this class?—It's very difficult to say.

After five years would you have expected the houses to have deteriorated?—Not to any appreciable extent. They would probably want repairs.

Did you firm build the Church Mission House near these buildings?—They did.

When was it built?—Somewhere about the same time as these houses.

Is that showing signs of collapsing?—I don't know. I have not inspected it.

In reply to the Court witness stated that the contract price for these 26 houses was \$24,000. This was an average price.

His Worship—Is there any evidence you wish to add?

Witness—The theory I have is that the windows were blown in and the wall fell out. That I think is practically borne out by the way the wall is blown down. Chinese are very careless about the fastening of windows. The corner house was particularly exposed to the south east, the direction from which the wind was blowing.

Mr. C. W. J. Fries, first assistant at the Observatory, said he had made out the return produced of the force and direction of the wind on 27th and 28th July. The wind blew with the greatest velocity from the south, south east, travelling 81 miles between 1.30 and 2.30 a.m. This velocity was probably exceeded, but could not be recorded owing to damage to the records.

The hearing was again adjourned.

AN ATTEMPT TO DEFRAUD.

CHINESE WOMAN SENT TO JAIL.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy yesterday Sergeant Garrod prosecuted a woman named Chan Yee for obtaining by a false pretence with intent to defraud, the sum of \$50 from a pawnbroker in Queen's Road Central. There was also a second charge of furnishing the pawnbroker with a false name and address.

The evidence for the prosecution showed that the defendant went to the pawnbroker's and endeavoured to pawn bangles of base metal plated with gold as gold bangles, and also furnished him with a false name and address.

When asked if she had any witnesses to call she replied in the negative, but made a statement in which she told his Worship that if he were to chop her head off he could not make her say anything about the articles before the Court, as she knew nothing about them. A woman who had gone to Singapore owed her 20 taels, and handed over the bangles in liquidation of the debt. Defendant had no fixed employment, but took up any job she could get hold of as attendant or follower.

His Worship sentenced her to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS:—

RICE.

SAIGON.—Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co. in their monthly circular dated Saigon 18th September, state:—Arrivals of paddy have been small and prices have in consequence gradually advanced. The quotations for October and November delivery are:—

No. 2 White sifted (<i>trié</i>) steam milled round	
No. 2 White unsifted (<i>ordinaire</i>) steam milled round	 \$84.10
5 % Cargo steam milled round	... 8.58
10 % Cargo steam milled round	... 8.52
20 % Cargo steam milled round	... 8.45

* Prices according to terms and conditions.

The following is a statement of this year's Exports of White Rice, Cargo Rice and Paddy:—

Destination.	Total pcs.
Hongkong	2,875,000
Shanghai	76,400
Ningpo	45,300
Manila	885,500
Hilo	124,000
Cebu	881,300
Japan	1,699,500
Singapore	634,700
Batavia	125,900
Samarang	140,800
Pasaoeran	81,000
Sourabaya	806,100
Cheribon	40,300
Noumea	24,000
Reunion	203,500
Europe	3,175,800

Total 11,052,000
Same period of last year 14,872,100

Exports during the month of white rice cargo rice and paddy:—

	piculs
Hongkong	18,200
Manila	182,500
Hilo	22,700
Japan	52,200
Singapore	89,000
Sourabaya	166,000
Cheribon	40,300
Reunion	68,400
Europe	180,800
Total	836,500

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, Oct. 2nd—Since the 17th ultimo, movements in the various Opium markets have been as follows:—

	Malwa	Patna	Benares	Persian
Stocks on the 17th Sept., 1908	2,393	1,745	865	1,004
Sept. 17th Imports per G. Appear	—	—	80	—
23rd " " C. Appear	—	575	405	—
28th " " Kutchang	—	304	558	—
24th " " Yochow	80	—	—	—
30th " " Delta	—	200	80	91

	2,443	2,824	1,683	1,008
Less Exports to Shanghai	166	510	87	—
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight	235	495	311	33

Estimated Stocks this day 2,042 1,819 1,285 1,002

Bengal.—In sympathy with rise in all descriptions of Opium, including Chinese, and also owing to satisfactory deliveries there has been a further spurt and prices have advanced to \$1205 for Patna and 1150. for New and Old Benares.

Malwa.—New drug has again risen largely and the last sale reported was at \$1150. but a higher price would now be offered in sympathy with the advance received from Shanghai 2/3 years drug is quoted at \$1,250/1,300.

Persian.—Prices have slightly improved but the local demand has been small and purely of a speculative nature. Superior drug is quoted at \$920.

AMOI, 23rd September.—The imports have been light, viz.—Benares, 56; Persian, 8; Szechuan, 10; Yunnan, 12.

FLOUR.

FOOCHOW, 18th September.—During the week 9,870 bags were imported as compared with 9,793 for the same week last year.

COAL.

HONGKONG, October 2nd.—The arrivals of coal since the 18th Sept. amounted to 35,436 tons of Japanese, and 4,800 tons of Hongay. The coal expected is 36,000 tons of Japan coal. There have been no sales of any importance in the interval. Quotations according to Messrs. Hughes and Hough's circular are as follows:—

Cardiff.....\$ — to \$ — ex-ship, nominal.
 Australian\$12.00 ex-ship, nominal.
 Yubari Lump...\$12.00 ex ship, nominal.
 Miki Lump ...\$10.50 to \$11.00 ex-ship, nominal.
 Moji Lump\$7.75 to \$9.50 ex-ship, steady.
 Moji Unscreed \$6.00 to \$8.00 ex-ship, steady.
 Akaike Lump ...\$8.75 to \$9.00 ex-ship, sellers.
 Labuan Lump ...\$9.00 ex-ship sellers.

SUGAR.

Kobe, 15th September.—Beet—market quiet but firm. Cane—Raw—The market is quiet. Muscovados Basis Polarisation 96 per cent. colour average 12½ is quoted at Y. 5.85/5.95 per picul ex-ship. Osaka refined—No auctions have taken place since the issue of last report, owing to the stocktaking of the various refineries preparatory to the opening of the new trust selling office.

KEROSENE.

Foochow, 18th September.—No imports during the week.

YARN.

HONGKONG—Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report dated 2nd October, states:—Dealers have at length commenced to operate more freely, and a considerable number of bales have changed hands as noted at foot. The majority of sales reported are in goods "to arrive" from neighbouring markets as well as Bombay. Comparatively little has been done in spot goods, as the quality on offer is too low for requirements. Prices have further advanced \$1 to \$3 per bale and the tone at the close is one of considerable firmness. The demand has been general, but has run principally on Nos. 10s and 20s which, as usual form the bulk of the settlements. Most of the buying in these counts have been for price, and more attention has been paid to medium spinings to the neglect of superior threads which are considered proportionately much higher in value. Clearances continue very satisfactory. During the late period of depression stocks in the country have been allowed to run very low, and what with the paucity of yarn here, both in first and second hands, the approaching busy season of the year, restricted supplies, and high prices ruling in Bombay the market closes strong and prospects ahead are encouraging. Sales of the interval aggregate 10,378 bales, arrivals amount to 8,381 bales, unsold stock estimated at 9,000 and sold but uncleared yarn in second hands at about 28,000 bales. Local Manufacture.—No business is reported. Japanese Yarn.—Neglected throughout. Raw Cotton.—Is steady with a moderate demand both for Indian, and China descriptions. Sales reported are, 490 bales superfine Bengals at \$23½ to 24 and 570 (small) bales Shanghai at \$29 to 27½ with an estimated stock of 895 bales Indian and 570 bales China. Quotations are Indian \$22 to \$24½ and China \$26 to \$28. Exchanged on India has fluctuated slightly in sympathy with silver and closes to-day at Rs. 133 for T/T and Rs. 133½ for Post. On Shanghai 75½ and on Japan 86½. The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the three weeks ended the 26th ultimo, viz:—Indian.—A change for the better has overtaken the market and sales to the extent of about 10,000 bales are reported at an appreciation of 1 to 2 Taels in values. Estimated unsold and uncleared stock about 25,000 bales. Japanese.—Shortness of supplies is affecting business. Only a few small lots have changed hands on the basis of Tls. 92½ to 101 for No. 16s and Tls. 102 to 108 for No. 20s. With reference to the bonus allowed on the exports of yarn from Japan, the scheme has not proved a success and will probably be abandoned. Local.—There has been quite a run on these threads and fully 20,000 bales have been sold at Tls. 83 for No. 10s, Tls. 85 for No. 12s. Tls. 85 to 88½ for No. 14s, and Tls. 90½ to 94 for No. 16s.

Foochow, 18th September.—During the week 159 piculs Indian, 139. Chinese have been imported, as against 939 Indian and no Chinese for the same period of last year. The total since June 1st is only 6,673 as against 18,192 for the same period last year.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co's Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai 28th September, 1908, states:—The principal topic of the week has been the news of a "lock-out" of Lancashire operatives, and the most recent telegrams says that as many as 1,200,000 people will be thrown idle. If these figures are correct both spinners and weavers must be concerned, and as to the effect of the strike both on the home and this market it is impossible to say as so many interests are concerned. Locally there has apparently been little done, but still there seems to be a better feeling, and while spot cargo is as difficult as ever to move there has been a quite undercurrent of business passing for shipment during November, December, and January next but the terms on which the business was done have been kept private. The Northern dealers have again been on the market and have bought P.M.C. Drills at Tls. 4.87½, and we have also been told that a fair business has been done with Chinese middlemen, at lower rates. Tientsin have also taken some second hand Sheetings at market rates. Clearances, on the whole, have been more than maintained, and it is hoped that this sure indication that stocks in the consuming districts are becoming limited. In Fancies a quiet indent business is passing for arrival next Spring. Telegrams from Manchester say business is much hampered by the strike, but quotations show the market as far as prices are concerned to be strong, this of course being due to the uncertainty as to delivery. The New York market is also firmer, and while we have not heard of any buying for China, there has been some business passing with India. Latest quotations for Cotton are 8.54 cents and 8.58 cents for January and March delivery respectively. The market for both Indian and Local yarns, have been very good, and while a very large business have been done, there are still some unexecuted orders on the market. The market is much assisted by the smallness of stocks, and the improvement in prices at Bombay. At the Yuen Fong Auction on 17th instant prices for Grey Shirtings, ranging from 7-lbs. to 8.12-lbs. showed advances, but the heavier weights nearly all went badly. White Shirtings were irregular, but at the same time some handsome advances were paid as much as sixteen candareens being paid for one chop. There is evidently, some enquiry for Turkey Reds, as prices are as a rule firmer all round, and rates for Black Italians are also stronger. There is not much to note about the Woollen Auction beyond a special advance for some special chops of Camlets and Lastings and a distinct improvement in the market for Spanish Stripes.

HONGKONG PRICES CURRENT.

HONGKONG, 3rd October, 1908.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—			
Grey Shirtings—6lbs.	piece \$ —	\$ —	
7 lbs.		2.25 to 2.50	
8.4 lbs.		3.10 to 4.10	
10 lbs.		4.00 to 5.40	
White Shirtings—54/56 reed ..		2.65 to 3.50	
58/60 " "		3.50 to 5.90	
64/66 " "		6.00 to 6.75	
Fine.....		8.00 to 9.25	
Book-folds ..		5.50 to 6.00	
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...		0.60 to 1.75	
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y ..		2.00 to 2.20	
7 lbs.		2.30 to 3.35	
6 lbs. "Mexicans," ..		—	
7 lbs.		3.35 to 3.85	
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..		3.25 to 4.15	
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ " to 14 lbs. }		4.50 to 5.20	
FANCY COTTONS—			
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 6 lbs. piece }		\$1.85 to \$4.25	
Brocades—Dyed	yard	0.11 to 14.75	
Chinese—Assorted		0.09 to 0.25	
Velvets—Black, 22 in.,		0.27½ to 0.55	
Velveteens—18 in.,		0.50 to 0.27	
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk doz.		0.50 to 2.00	
WOOLLENS—			
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	yard	\$0.70 to \$2.00	
German,		0.50 to 0.65	
Habit, Medium & Broad Cloths ..		0.95 to 2.00	
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-9 lbs. piece		8.25 to 9.50	
Assorted.....		7.35 to 9.60	
Camlets—Assorted		12.00 to 30.00	
Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches }		13.50 to 21.00	
Assorted		—	
Orleans—Plain.....		9.50 to 11.00	
Blankets—8 to 12	lbs.	0.60 to 1.40	

RAW COTTON—

Bombay	picul	\$22.50 to \$23.50
Bengal (New), Rangoon and Dacca		23.00 to 24.50
Shanghai and Japanese ..		26.00 to 27.00
Tungchow and Ningpo ...		26.20 to 28.00

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod	picul	\$ 4.15
Square, Flat, Round Bar (Eng.) ..		4.05
Swedish Bar		4.20
Small Round Rod		4.50
Hoop, ½ to 1½ in.		5.80
Wire, 16/25 oz.,		9.50
Old Wire Rope		3.00
Lead—L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..		—
Australian		9.00 to 9.05
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/28 oz. ...		39.00
Vivian's, 16/32 oz., ..		39.00
Elliott's, 16/28 oz. ...		39.00
Tin,		84.00
Tin Plates,	box	8.40
Steel	cwt. case	—
MISCELLANEOUS—		
Quicksilver,	picul	167.50 to 167.00
Window Glass,	box	4.60
Kerosene Oil	case	—
Saltpetre, No. 1	picul	\$11.00 to 11.70
Do. No. 2		10.60 to 10.70
Do. No. 3		9.50 to 9.80

EXPORTS:—

TEA.

HANKOW, Sept. 24th.—Business reported since the 18th ult., is as under:—

	1908.	1907.
Settlements ..	2,464	1,818
Consisting of the following Teas:—		
Oonams	869	10.00
Oofaa	402	9.00
Seang-Tams	1,393	10.00

The following are Statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz. 26th September, 1907:—

	1908.	1907.
HANKOW TEA		
Settlements ..	538,550	489,862
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account...	50,000	18,326
Stock ..	53,579	15,065
Arrivals ..	642,129	523,253
KIUKIANG TEA		
Settlements ..	180,853	181,558
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account...	15,335	11,471
Stock ..	5,024	7,856
Arrivals ..	201,212	197,885

Comparative Quotations per picul are as under:—

	1908.	1907.
Ningchows Tls. 15.50 at 100.00		Tls. 16.60 at 100.00
Khemuns. ..	21.00 " 67.00	" 18.50 " 74.00
Hohows ..	19.00 " 24.50	" — " —
Kutoans ..	22.50 " 27.00	" 21.50 " 25.50
Wenchows ..	19.50 " 21.00	" — " —
Oopack ..	9.50 " 26.00	" 11.75 " 27.00
Oonams ..	8.75 " 28.00	" 11.00 " 28.00
Oonfaas ..	12.00 " 36.00	" 11.60 " 35.75
Seangtams ..	8.75 " 18.50	" 12.30 " 17.30
Ichange ..	19.00 " 65.00	" 22.00 " 73.00

The export to 21th instant, as per Customs Returns stands thus:

	Hankow.	Kiukiang.
Season 1908-1909...	lbs. 15,060,440	lbs. 4,497,028
" 1907-1908...	" 13,878,180	" 5,654,940
" 1906-1907...	" 17,304,017	" 5,841,312

	1908/9	1907/8	1906/7
Via Shanghai,			
To Great Britain.....	2,186,267	2,586,991	2,944,272
" U. S. & Canada	5,893,564	3,649,051	2,080,504
" Continent	2,602,035	2,222,064	1,854,073
" Russia via North..	125,401	17,879	156,805
" Russia in Europe, ..	618,956	5,528,461	9,781,900
" Shanghai	7,177,577	3,079,684	6,278,977
Direct, 1908.			
U. S.	472,576	lbs.	
Gr. Britain	3,798,659	"	
Continent	867,332	"	
Russia in Europe...	5,433,132	"	
Russia in Asia	22,324,928	"	

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 3rd October.—The price is further declining, there being no market. Quotations are \$45.50 to \$44.00.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS

Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.'s Fortnightly Produce Circular, dated Shanghai, 23rd Sept., states:—Gallnuts.—Plumshaped are offered freely and prices have eased off. It is reported that the crop of usual Galls will be small and prices are firm in consequence. Cowhides.—Market closed. Feathers.—A fair demand from home. Little cargo offering. Cotton.—During the past week our market has strengthened considerably. Farmers claim that the present cold, cloudy weather has hurt the crop. We do not expect that the advance will be lasting. Tallow.—A fair business at steady prices. Strawbraid.—A small business continue to be done in Fine Split, Fine Shingkee, Laichow Mottled, Loyeh and Kwangchow White, prices of all of which have further advanced. For other kinds demand nil, stocks very small. Sesamumseed.—A continued good business is done in yellow seed. Prices steady. Crop is estimated at 100,000 Tons or 80 per cent. of last year's. Wool.—Sheeps.—A small business. The expected improvement in America has not come. Stocks at Shanghai are moderate. Wood Oil.—A small business. Prices somewhat easier. Antimony.—A very good demand. Chinese are unwilling sellers. We expect a higher market.

Per M. M. steamer Ernest Simons, sailed on 29th September, 1908. For Marseille:—17 caisses chapeaux, 6 caisses soieries, 3 caisses Ilang Ilang, 300 balles déchets de soie, 4 caisses feathers, 75 balles soie, 10 colis thé, 10 caisses huile essentielle, 1 colis canes, 5 caisses cheveux. For Paris:—1 caisse cylindres pour phonographes, 1 caisse vêtements. For Lyon:—205 balles soie, 2 balles déchets de soie. For Valence:—10 balles soie. For Barcelone:—5 balles soie. For Trieste:—1 caisse plumes. For Réunion:—40 colis provisions. For Bagdad:—6 caisses camphre. For Buen Ayres:—1 caisse soieries. For Londres:—2 caisses curios.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 2nd October, 1908.—Business during the past week has been much quieter, and there are few transactions of importance to report. On the whole however rates are well maintained, and the general tendency is still towards higher values. Barsilver in London is quoted at 23½d. and sterling T.T. at 1/9½. The T.T. rate on Shanghai is unchanged at 75½.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled firm, and close with buyers at \$772½, a sale being reported at \$775. The London rate is unchanged at £80. There is no business to report in Nationals which are still quoted at \$51 with buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are procurable at \$795 to a small extent but at \$790 there are buyers, Cantons are on offer at \$210, after small sale at the rate.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Chinas are wanted at \$94, and Hongkongs at the improved rate of \$325 after sales at the rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been booked at \$29, and Douglases at \$34½, the latter closing with sellers. Star Ferric continue in request at \$15 for the new issue, and Shell Transports at 45s., but there is no business to report in either stock.

REFINERIES.—Quotations are unchanged and there is no business to report.

MINING.—Chinese Engineerings have been booked at Tls. 16, but otherwise there is no business or change in quotations to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been fixed at \$94, and more shares can be obtained. Sales are reported of Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves at \$49, and of Shanghai Docks at Tls 86. There are sellers in the North of Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves at Tls. 157.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Small sales are reported of Hongkong Lands at \$94, and of West Point's at \$46. Humphrey's Estates are wanted at \$94, and Hongkong Hotels at \$77.

COTTON MILLS.—No business is reported in this section. Hongkongs are steady at \$104 ex the dividend of 50 cents per share for the year ending 31st July, 1908, paid on the 28th ultimo.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Bell's Asbestos have been fixed and there are further buyers at \$8. China-Borneos are procurable at 10½ and China Providents at \$9½, the latter after sales at the rate. Dairy Farms have again been booked at \$20 and are on further request. Green Island Cements are steady at \$10 with probable sellers. Ropes have been booked at \$25, and Hongkong and China Gas at \$185.

Quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS
Alhambra	Ps. 200	Nominal
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$772½, buyers
National B. of China	26	\$51, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$8, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	12	\$104, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$64, sellers
China Provident	\$10	\$94, sales & sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 64
Hongkong	\$10	\$104, x.d., sales
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 60
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 80
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 240
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$20, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$49, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$94, sales & sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$64	\$94, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 86
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 160
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$12, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$10, sales & sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$185, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$19
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$77
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$231
H. K. Milling Co., Ltd.	\$100	Nominal
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$25, sales & buyers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$210, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$94, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$864
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$325, sales & buy.
North China	25	Tls. 82, buyers
Union	\$100	\$795, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$160, buyers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$94, sales
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$9, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$27, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 114
West Point Building	\$50	\$46, sales
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$580, buyers
Raubs	18 10	\$77, sellers
Peak Tramways	\$10	\$14
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$2
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$125, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$22
Robinson Piano Co.	\$50	\$59
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$344, sellers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$29, sales
Indo-China S. N. Co.	25	\$75
Shell Transport Co.	21	45/- buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$24, buyers
Do. New	\$5	\$15, buyers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$24, buyers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$54
Stores & Dispensaries		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$9, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$5
Watkins	\$10	\$3, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$94
Wiemann Ltd.	\$100	\$150
United Asbestos	\$4	\$124
Do. Founders	\$10	\$230
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$104, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

24th September, 1908.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks:—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$800, buyers ex 73
National of China	26	\$51, buyers
Russo-Chinese	R187½	Tls. 175, sellers
Insurance:—		
Union Society C'ton	\$100	\$790, sellers
North-China	25	Tls. 82, buyers
Yangtze Assocn.	\$60	\$167½, sellers
Canton	\$50	\$325, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$312½, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$94, buyers ex 73
Shipping:—		
Indo-China { pref. } { def. }	210	Tls. 234, sellers Tls. 134, sellers
Shell Trans. { ord. }	21	\$25.0, sellers
& Trading { pref. }	10	\$29.10, sellers
S'hai Tug & { ord. }		Tls. 47, sellers
Lighter { pref. }	T50	Tls. 51, buyers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 48, sellers
Kochien Transport- ation & Tow Boat	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Eng.	T100	Tls. 86, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$105, sellers
S. & H'kew Wharf	T100	Tls. 164, sales
H. K'loon W. & G.	\$50	\$49, sellers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 217½, sellers
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation	T50	Tls. 90, sellers
China Refining	\$100	\$132½, sellers
Mining:—		
Haub Australian	21	\$8, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	18/10	Tls. 16, sellers
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment	T50	Tls. 112½, sales
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$99, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$104, sellers
Weihaiwei	T25	\$9, sellers
China	T50	Tls. 60, sellers
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 100, sellers
Cotton:—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 62½, buyers
International	T75	Tls. 60, buyers
Laou Kung Mow	T100	Tls. 80, sellers
Soy Chee	T500	Tls. 242½, sellers
H'kong C. S. W. D.	\$10	\$9, buyers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 117, sellers
Major Brothers	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Shanghai Ice	T25	Tls. 14, sellers
China Flour Mill	T60	Tls. 40, sellers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 52½, sellers
Green Is. Cement	\$10	\$104, sellers ex 73
Maatschappij, &c., in Langkat	Gs. 100	Tls. 635, buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco	T20	Tls. 108, sales
S'hai Waterworks	220	Tls. 395, ex div.
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	100	\$85, buyers
A. Butler Cement		
Tile Works	50	\$25, sellers
Kalumpang Rubber	50	Tls. 58, buyers
Eastern Fibre	10	nominal
Shanghai Electric Construction	210	\$29.0.0, sellers
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Holts	\$20	\$204, buyers
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$43, buyers
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$11½, sellers
Central Ordinary	\$15	\$11½, buyers
Central Founders	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co.	\$50	\$47, sellers
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$24, sales
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$164, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$98, sellers
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 7, sales
Tsingtao Hotel Co.	\$100	nominal
Lane, Crawford &	100	\$150, sellers
Dunning & Co.	50	\$47½, sellers
S'hai Horse Bazaar	T50	Tls. 42½, sellers
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 58, sellers
China Im. & Ex.		
Lumber	T100	Tls. 85, sellers
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	\$25	\$23, sellers
Dallas Horse Rep- pository	T50	Tls. 25, sellers
Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50, sellers

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending September 24th, states:—A good business has been done during the week, and adjustments for the Settlement on the 29th inst., have been made to a considerable extent: Maatschappij, etc., in Langkat shares have advanced Tls. 15 over last week's closing rate and there is no change of importance in other stocks. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have been in good demand and the market closes with buyers at \$800, with exchange 73. Insurance.—North Chinas are wanted at Tls. 82. Shipping.—There is no business reported. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. shares remain at Tls. 86. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co.—A fair amount of transactions have been reported this week at from Tls. 157 to Tls. 161 for cash, and Tls. 158 to Tls. 161 for September. Some sales have taken place for December at Tls. 162 to Tls. 165. The market closes steady. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf Co. have improved slightly in the South to \$49. Sugar Companies.—No business reported. Mining.—No business reported. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have suffered a decline to Tls. 112, at which price there are new buyers. Anglo-French Lands. There are sellers at Tls. 100. Industrial.—Ewo Cotton.—A large business has taken place this week at Tls. 62 for cash, Tls. 63 for September, and Tls. 64, 65 and 65 for December. Shanghai Gas Co. shares have changed hands at Tls. 177. Maatschappij &c. in Langkats. The market opened with cash shares at Tls. 620, the December rate being Tls. 640. A gradual improvement has taken place since, and without going into every variation of price on each particular day, we will merely quote the closing rates at Tls. 630 for cash and September and Tls. 652 for December. The market is quiet. Shanghai Sumatras T. Co. shares have had a rapid advance to Tls. 107 for cash, and Tls. 110 December, buyers. Shanghai Electric Const. Co. There are sellers at 29. Miscellaneous.—There has been a fair general business and rates are as appended below. Loans and Debentures.—No transactions are reported this week.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, October 2nd.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9 1/2
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/8 1/2
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand	22 1/2
Credits 4 months' sight	22 1/2
ON GERMANY.—On demand	180 1/2
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	43
Credits, 60 days' sight	44 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	133
Bank, on demand	133 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	133
Bank on demand	133 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	75 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	76 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	86 1/2
ON MANILA.—On demand	86 1/2
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	75 1/2
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	106
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	11 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	11 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	86 1/2
SVESIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.15
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$58.60
BAR SILVER per oz	23 1/2

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

		per cent discount.
Chinese	20 cents pieces	\$5.66
"	10 " "	6.80
Hongkong	20 " "	4.80
"	10 " "	5.00

TONNAGE.

Hongkong 2nd October.—There has been a good demand for tonnage during the period under review, and most of the disengaged tonnage has found employment but at unremunerative rates. From Saigon to Hongkong, regular liners are still booking cargo at 4 cents; to Philippines, one charter effected at 25 cents for 20,000 piculs; to North Coast Java, 20 cents last. From Wuhu to Swatow, a large business has been put through on the basis of about 16 cents per picul. From Newchwang to Canton, several charters done at

20 cents for New Beans. Coal freights continue steady. From South Japan Coal port to Hongkong, \$1.25 per ton last; to Singapore, nothing doing. Pulo Laut to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton. The Quinta has been closed for Yangtze South China trade, and the Hilary for Java trade. The following are the settlements:—

Taiwan—British steamer, 1,042 tons, Saigon to Hongkong (30,000 piculs) 5 cents per picul.
Fiume—German steamer, 838 tons, Saigon to Cebu (20,000 piculs), 25 cents per picul.
Victoria—Swedish steamer, 989 tons, Saigon to 1 port North Coast Java, 20 cents per picul.
Standard—Norwegian steamer, 908 tons, Kamrauh Bay to Manila (cattle), \$3,500 lumpsum.
Kwangse—British steamer, 1,228 tons, Newchwang, to Canton (20,000 piculs), 20 cents per picul.

A C. N. Co.'s steamer, Newchwang to Canton (18/20,000 piculs), 20 cents per picul.
Tylatjap—Dutch steamer, 2,470 tons, Pulo Laut to Hongkong (2,000 tons), \$2.15 per ton.
Chihli—British steamer, 1,143 tons, Haiphong to Canton (18/1,900 tons), \$1.65 per ton.
Matilda Korner—German steamer, 1,846 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.25 per ton.
Onsang—British steamer, 1,787 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.25 per ton.
Quarta—German steamer, 987 tons, monthly charter, 2/1 months, \$5,250 per month.
Hilary—German steamer, 1,276 tons, monthly charter, 2/1 months \$4,800 per month.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September—	
ARRIVALS.	
26, Ayuthia, British str., from Bangkok.	
26, Bujan Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.	
26, H'kong M, Jap. str., from San Francisco.	
27, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.	
27, Signal, German str., from Hoihow.	
27, Shoshu Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.	
27, Spezia, German str., from Hankow.	
27, Tjibodas, Dutch str., from Moji.	
28, Caledonien, French str., from Saigon.	
28, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.	
28, Choysang, German str., from Bangkok.	
28, Gilbert, French str., from Macao.	
28, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Manila.	
28, Kutsang, British str., from Singapore.	
28, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
28, Minnesota, Am. str., from Seattle.	
28, Petohabari, German str., from Bangkok.	
28, Rubi, British str., from Manila.	
28, Tamba Maru, Jap. nese str., from Japan.	
28, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.	
29, Aleia, German str., from Portland.	
29, Benalder, British str., from London.	
29, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.	
29, Dagny, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.	
29, Drufar, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.	
29, M. Rickmers, Ger. str., from Kutohino (su).	
29, Nikko Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.	
29, Sambia, German str., from Singapore.	
29, Sungkiang, British str., from Iloilo.	
29, Taiwan, British str., from Saigon.	
29, Tsintan, German str., from Bangkok.	
30, Amara, British str., from Hongay.	
30, Delta, British str., from Bombay.	
30, Kaisow, British str., from Hankow.	
30, Kiukiang, British str., from Shanghai.	
30, Takasaki Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.	

September— DEPARTURES.

25, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.	
25, Hauoi, French str., for Haiphong.	
25, Loongang, British str., for Manila.	
25, Liberia, German str., for Singapore.	
25, Sumatra, British str., for Yokohama.	
25, Tjimabi, Dutch str., for Batavia.	
25, Tjipanas, Dutch str., for Yokohama.	
25, Triumph, German str., for Haiphong.	
25, Vorwaerts, Austrian str., for Singapore.	
25, Zieten, German str., for Shanghai.	
26, China, American str., for Shanghai.	
26, E. of China, Br. str., for Shanghai, &c.	
26, Kueichow, British str., for Shanghai.	
26, Shaoching, British str., for Shanghai.	
26, Tosa Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.	
26, Zsifro, British str., for Manila.	
28, Inverio, British str., for Tacoma.	
28, Taishuu, Chinese str., for Shanghai.	
28, Toonan, Chinese str., for Amoy.	
29, Anghin, German str., for Bangkok.	
29, Caledonien, French str., for Shanghai.	
29, Chunsang, British str., for Singapore.	
29, Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.	

29, Ernest Simons, French str., for Europe.	
29, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.	
29, Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.	
30, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.	
30, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.	
30, Kwanglee, British str., for Shanghai.	
30, Manchuria, Am. str., for San Francisco.	
30, Shoshu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.	
30, Taming, British str., for Manila.	
30, Veridalia, German str., for New York.	
30, Yatsing, British str., for Swatow.	

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Kiukiang*, from Shanghai, Mr J. W. Thomson.
Per *Benalder*, from London, Mr A. Brooks and Mr A. Patterson.
Per *Caledonien*, for Hongkong, from Singapore, Mr. Haalmeyer; from Saigon, Pere Mahen.
Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr and Mrs Waterdorp, Dr. and Mrs McKay, Mrs J. Lesse; Capt. White, Messrs. Hageden, Rastrin, Watamont, Colein, M. Sas and Dempster.
Per *Minnesota*, from Seattle, &c., Mr and Mrs G. A. Fisher, Mr and Mrs M. M. Kaad, Lieut. and Mrs A. Barber, Rev. and Mrs H. V. Noyes, Rev. and Mrs J. Voth, Judge and Mrs E. Johnson, Mrs and Miss E. Reid, Mrs Dunbar and child, Mrs N. Cushman, Mrs R. Coppage and child, Mrs Bates and child, Mrs A. O. Yocum, Mrs Cadwallader and 2 children, Misses A. Payne, P. Lacey, H. Abramson, E. E. Thompson, B. Allan and C. Loreng, Dr. J. A. Mollroy, Capt. Brierly, Messrs. H. C. Russell, G. G. Wood, E. Peluse, F. J. Parries, T. W. Kidd, W. Dunbar, W. F. Brewer, G. N. Orms, R. Coppage, H. E. Piper, J. C. Scott, G. Friel, T. Seggie, C. C. Lacey, G. W. Griggs, L. S. Bitner, H. G. Moore and H. M. Libbey.
Per *Delta*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr and Mrs Morris and 2 children, Mr and Mrs Fisher, Misses M. Hughes and Square, Messrs. Stewart, de la Rama and J. Rivera; from Bombay, Major M. Haines; from Colombo, Messrs. T. de C. Rosario and E. de C. Rosario; from Singapore, Mr and Mrs T. C. Kok, Messrs. J. G. Grant, D. Harvey, S. Pheng, C. J. H. Basagotti, Perpetuo and Castilho; for Shanghai, from London, Mrs Copplestone, Mrs Cockburn and infant, Misses Craig, Whitley, Dick; E. F. Rust, Barclay, Hodge, Spicer and Copplestone, Capt. Thomas, Master Loy and Mr C. Anner; from Marseilles, Messrs. H. Idsworth, Jarret and Staley; from Singapore, for Shanghai, Mrs E. C. Prynn; for Yokohama, from London, Mr Northrop; from Singapore, Mr C. H. Allen.

DEPARTED.

Per *Manchuria*, for San Francisco, &c., Rev. and Mrs T. H. Smith and family, Mr and Mrs M. Morgado, Mrs J. Elaser, Mrs J. S. van Buren and amah, Messrs. R. H. B. Heath and E. Y. Hallmeyer.
Per *Caledonien*, for Shanghai, &c., Mr and Mrs Carpi, Mr and Mrs Duprat, Mrs Brandt, Rev. P. Morrovelas, Rev. P. S. Latorre, Rev. P. Daza, Messrs. Condon, Campbell, Chamayou, Chemo, Laboiron, J. du Plessis, Care, Parrot, O. H. Waisie, K. Makagawa, H. Rom, V. Vibet, Joyee, Gattet, Balliste, Gueriaz, Thibaudet, Gouin, Vererbergh, Cherry, Dib Laidan, Jones, D. Texanis, John Shand, H. Shoen and F. L. Tuck.
Per *Zsifro*, for Macilla, Mr and Mrs G. V. Lamb, Mr and Mrs H. P. Thompson, Mr and Mrs B. Villeneuve, Mr and Mrs L. P. Mowery, Mr and Mrs M. M. Johnston, Mr and Mrs O. Ferguson, Mr and Mrs K. F. Hopkin, Rev. & Mrs O. B. Smith, Mr and Miss H. O. Gearing, Mrs and Miss Sears, Mrs J. Gilles, Mrs J. de la Cruz, Mrs W. P. Barritt, Misses Wumatu Hatu and S. Willard, Messrs. H. B. W. Collough, H. C. Fassett, D. Grunenwald, R. Oberwimmer, H. S. Everett, C. H. Hilbert, R. P. Carter, C. D. Bush, F. Dalgado, M. Billedo, C. F. Dandor and F. W. Sheridan.

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